

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
OFFICE OF SPECIAL EDUCATION AND REHABILITATIVE SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20202-2740**

**2003 APPLICATION KIT FOR NEW GRANTS
UNDER
THE REHABILITATION SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
SPECIAL DEMONSTRATION PROGRAMS
MODEL DEMONSTRATIONS TO IMPROVE THE
LITERACY AND EMPLOYMENT OUTCOMES OF
INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES**

CFDA NUMBER: 84.235P

FORM APPROVED
OMB No. 1820-0018, EXP. DATE 8/2004
ED FORM 424, 11/30/2004



DATED MATERIAL - OPEN IMMEDIATELY

CLOSING DATE: August 27, 2003

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>SECTION</u>
Dear Applicant Letter	A
Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards	B
Selection Criteria	C
Summary of Important Points in Preparing an Application	D
Application Transmittal Instructions	E
Part I Federal Assistance Face Page (ED 424)	
Part II Budget Information	
Part III Program Narrative	
Part IV Assurances, Certifications, Disclosures	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assurances – Non-Construction Programs• Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and other Responsibility Matters, and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements• Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and Voluntary Exclusion – Lower Tier Covered Transactions• Disclosure of Lobbying Activities	
Important Notices	F
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New Provision in the Department of Education’s General Education Provisions Act (GEPA)• The Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA)• Important Notice to Prospective Participants/USDE Grant and Contract Programs• Notice Regarding Executive Order 12372 and Listing of State Single Points of Contact• Survey on Ensuring Equal Opportunity for Applicants	
Application Checklist, Common Questions and Answers, And Other Important Information	G

Section A

Dear Applicant Letter

Dear Applicant:

The Secretary invites applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2003 under the Demonstrations and Training Authority to Improve The Literacy and Employment Outcomes of Individuals of Disabilities Projects (CFDA 235 P). This program is authorized by Title III, Section 303 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (the Act).

PROGRAM PURPOSE

This competition focuses on projects designated to meet a priority in regulations for the program, 34 CFR 373.6 (b)(B). These grants are designated to offer innovative methods of promoting achievement of high-quality employment outcomes.

The purpose of this program, as described in Title III, Section 303 (b) (1) of the Act, The Commissioner, subject to the provisions of section 306, may provide grants to, or enter into contracts with, eligible entities to pay all or part of the cost of programs that expand and improve the provision of rehabilitation and other services authorized under this Act or that further the purposes of the Act, including related research and evaluation activities.

This application kit contains information and all the required forms needed for submission to the FY 2003 competition for a Projects and Demonstrations to Improve The Literacy and Employment Outcomes of Individuals of Disabilities grant. Prior to completing the grant application, please review the Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards (Notice included in Section B). The Notice includes information regarding the estimated average award size and an invitational priority. Potential applicants are advised to review the materials in this kit carefully, particularly the information on eligibility requirements and the selection criteria (see Section C). Applicants are advised to review other special program requirements as indicated in the Notice and the statutory language, and to reflect these in the narrative. Applications that do not meet the eligibility requirements for this competition will not be reviewed.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Applicants must submit one original application and two copies. RSA would appreciate receiving three additional copies to facilitate the peer review process (six applications in all).

Applications must be mailed (postmarked) on or before the closing date of August 27, 2003 indicated in this package to the following address: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center, Attention: CFDA Number 84.235P, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202-4725.

Applications sent by overnight mail (UPS, Federal Express, USPO Express, etc.) must be sent to a **different address**: U.S. Department of Education, Application Control Center, Room 3671, GSA National Capitol Region, 7th and D Streets, SW, Washington, DC 20202-4725. Telephone number: 202-708-9493.

APPLICATION CONTENT

Block number 4 of the application cover page (Standard Form 424) requires that the appropriate CFDA be inserted. For this application, use CFDA number 84.235P with the title of the program as Projects and Demonstrations to Improve The Literacy and Employment Outcomes of Individuals of Disabilities.

Applicants for multi-year projects are required to include in the application for each year of the total grant period requested, detailed Federal and non-Federal budget information. Instructions for providing budget information are included in this application kit in Part II of Section E. Projects and Demonstrations to Improve The Literacy and Employment Outcomes of Individuals of Disabilities projects may be funded for a period of up to 60 months.

Each proposal **MUST** include a one page abstract. The abstract is a critical component of the proposal and **MUST** highlight the purpose of the project, target population to be served during the project period, planned goals and objectives, strategies utilized, and project outcomes.

The program narrative must address the selection criteria used for this program that are included in this application package (Section C). **To facilitate the peer review process, applicants are encouraged to address the criteria in the order presented.**

In addition, applicants are reminded that the 1998 Amendments to the Rehabilitation Act require that all new applicants **must** describe how the needs of individuals with disabilities from minority backgrounds will be addressed. In addition, applicants **must** provide assurance that individuals who receive services will be advised of the availability and purposes of the State's Client Assistance Programs, including information on the means of seeking assistance under such a program.

PROGRAM RULES AND REGULATIONS

Statutory guidance for this program is found in Title III, Section 303 of the Act, and 34 CFR part 373.

These grants are also subject to the requirements of the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR), 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 82, 85, 86, 97, and 99, which set forth general rules affecting application submittal, review, grant awarding, and post-award administration of Department of Education grant programs.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW FOR FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Applications under these programs are to be submitted to the appropriate State agency for review as stipulated under Executive Order 12372 – Intergovernmental Review. If a State has established a process for this review, all applicants must contact the appropriate State Single Point of Contact and follow its established procedures. A list containing the Single Point of Contact for each State is included in the packet (Section F).

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

If you have any questions about the information in this application packet, please contact Susan-Marie Marsh at (202) 358-2796. Individuals who use a telecommunications device (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8:00 a.m. and 8:00 p.m., Eastern Standard Time, Monday through Friday.

Thank you for your interest in this program.

Sincerely,

Thomas E. Finch, Ph.D.
Director
Special Projects Division

Important Application Information

Several factors will result in automatic rejection of your application. Please be sure your application addresses each appropriately:

- Part III of the application narrative, is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria used by reviewers in evaluating the application. The applicant must limit Part III to the equivalent of no more than **50 pages**, using the following standards:
 - (1) A “page” is 8.5” x 11”, on one side only with 1” margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.
 - (2) You must double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.

If you use a proportional computer font, you may not use a font smaller than a 12-point font or an average character density greater than 18 characters per inch. If you use a nonproportional font or a typewriter, you may not use more than 12 characters per inch.

The page limit does not apply to Part I, the cover sheet; Part II, the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; Part IV, the assurances and certifications; or the one-page abstract, the resumes, the bibliography, or the letters of support. However, you must include all of the application narrative in Part III.

If, in order to meet the page limit, you use print size, spacing, or margins smaller than the standards specified in this notice, the Secretary will not consider your application for funding.

Please remember that appendix material is considered supplemental material to support or show evidence-supporting statements made in the narrative. They are neither requested nor expected to consider appendix material in rating applications.

You are asked to allow your State Vocational Rehabilitation agency an opportunity to review and comment on your application. Please be sure that this requirement is documented in your application. **Failure to comply with this requirement will also result in rejection of your application.**

Applications for new projects in response to this announcement should become familiar with the selection criteria contained in this application kit (see Section D). These criteria will be used by reviewers and Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) staff to evaluate all applications. Your application should respond to each identified criterion since failure to do so will put your application at a significant disadvantage.

Reviewers of applications report that an application written in a format that follows the peer review criteria and contains a separate budget section, greatly facilitates the review process.

Such a format would appear as follows:

SECTION A: Application face page

SECTION B: Budget pages/budget narrative

SECTION C: Abstract (one page)

SECTION D: Narrative (not to exceed **50** pages):

- Relevance to State-Federal Rehabilitation Service Program
- Nature and Scope
- Project Services
- Management Plan
- Project Evaluation
- Project Personnel
- Project Resources

SECTION E: Appendices (assurances/certifications, one-page resumes, bibliography, letters of support, etc)

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS (EDGAR)

Program grants are subject to the requirements of the Education Department General Administrative Regulations at 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 82, 85, 86, 97, and 99.

These regulations set forth all general rules affecting application submittal, review, grant awarding, and post-award administration of Department of Education grant programs.

APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL INSTRUCTIONS

You have the option of submitting your application electronically or mailing it through the postal service. Please refer to the Notice Inviting New Applications in Section E of this application package for instructions on submitting your application electronically or mailing your application. If you use the postal service or express mail service, I encourage you to overnight-mail or hand-deliver the original and two copies of the application on or before the closing date that is indicated on the cover of this application kit. Overnight mailing, hand delivery, and regular mailing addresses are indicated in Section E. It will expedite the review process if three additional copies (for a total of 6— one original and five copies) are submitted to the Application Control Center in Washington, D.C., and a copy is submitted to the respective Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) Regional Office.

Applicants may contact their Regional Office Representative or the Competition Manager to discuss any matters relating to this competition. Regional Office Representatives are indicated in Section E of this kit. The Competition Manager is Susan-Marie Marsh, who may be reached at (202) 358-2796.

Section B

Notice of Proposed Priority and Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards

4000-01-U

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

RIN 1820-ZA29

Special Demonstration Programs--Model Demonstrations to Improve the Literacy and Employment Outcomes of Individuals With Disabilities

AGENCY: Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of proposed priorities.

SUMMARY: The Assistant Secretary for the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services (OSERS) proposes priorities under the Special Demonstration Programs. The Assistant Secretary may use these priorities in fiscal year (FY) 2003 and in later years. We take this action to focus attention on the adult literacy needs of individuals with disabilities pursuing employment under the State Vocational Rehabilitation Services Program. We intend that projects funded under these priorities will demonstrate that certain specific literacy services may raise the literacy levels and earnings of individuals with disabilities compared to individuals who receive the usual vocational rehabilitation (VR) services.

DATES: We must receive your comments on or before (INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER).

ADDRESSES: Address all comments about these proposed priorities to Susan-Marie Marsh, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Switzer Building, room 3316, Washington, DC 20202-2641. If you prefer to send your comments through the Internet, use the following address:

Susan-Marie.Marsh@ed.gov

You must include the term "Model Demonstrations to Improve the Literacy and Employment Outcomes of Individuals With Disabilities" in the subject line of your electronic message.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Susan-Marie Marsh.

Telephone: (202) 358-2796 or via Internet:

Susan-Marie.Marsh@ed.gov

If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the TDD number at (202) 205-8133.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Invitation to Comment

We invite you to submit comments regarding these proposed priorities. We invite you to assist us in complying with the specific requirements of Executive Order 12866 and its overall requirement of reducing regulatory burden that might result from these proposed priorities. Please let us know of any further opportunities we should take to reduce potential costs or increase potential benefits while preserving the effective and efficient administration of the program.

During and after the comment period, you may inspect all public comments about these proposed priorities in room 3038, Switzer Building, 330 C Street, SW., Washington, DC, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday of each week except Federal holidays.

Assistance to Individuals With Disabilities in Reviewing the Rulemaking Record

On request, we will supply an appropriate aid, such as a reader or print magnifier, to an individual with a disability who needs assistance to review the comments or other documents in the public rulemaking record for these proposed priorities. If you want to schedule an appointment for this type of aid, please contact the person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.

We will announce the final priorities in a notice in the Federal Register. We will determine the final priorities after considering responses to this notice and other information available to the Department. This notice does not preclude us from proposing or funding additional priorities, subject to meeting applicable rulemaking requirements.

Note: This notice does not solicit applications. In any year in which we choose to use these proposed priorities, we invite applications through a notice in the Federal Register. When inviting applications we designate the priority as absolute, competitive preference, or invitational. The effect of each type of priority follows:

Absolute priority: Under an absolute priority, we consider only applications that meet the priority (34 CFR 75.105(c)(3)).

Competitive preference priority: Under a competitive preference priority, we give competitive preference to an application by either (1) awarding additional points, depending on how well or the extent to which the application meets the competitive priority (34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i)); or (2) selecting an application that meets the competitive priority over an application of comparable merit that does not meet the priority (34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(ii)).

Invitational priority: Under an invitational priority, we are particularly interested in applications that meet the

invitational priority. However, we do not give an application that meets the invitational priority a competitive or absolute preference over other applications (34 CFR 75.105(c)(1)).

PRIORITIES:

Background:

Preliminary data from the Longitudinal Study of the Vocational Rehabilitation Services Program suggest reading achievement levels are highly positively correlated with earnings. Data also indicate that VR agencies provide basic literacy services to only one percent of the VR population. As a result of these findings, the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) is testing two instructional reading curricula: the Lindamood-Bell Language Program (LBLP) and the Wilson Reading System® (WRS). Both curricula have proven effective with adults with disabilities. However, the impact of these curricula on the literacy skills of adults with disabilities has not been assessed, and neither curriculum has been studied in a VR setting by RSA. Thus, RSA is interested in testing the impact of each curriculum on the literacy of adults with disabilities against the traditional services provided by VR.

Both curricula are phonics-based, but their instructional models differ. The WRS, based on the principles of Orton-

Gillingham methodology, focuses on decoding and spelling for adults who have been unable to learn encoding and decoding through traditional basal methods, whole language, or other phonics programs and who require multisensory language instruction to master the phonological coding system of English. Teaching models of direct instruction with drill are implemented. The WRS Web site address is:

<http://www.WilsonLanguage.com>

The LBLP is used to develop students' cognitive and linguistic abilities in the areas of phonemic and orthographic awareness (symbol imagery) for decoding and spelling, and concept imagery for vocabulary development and oral and written language comprehension. The curriculum is student-driven, sequential, and constructivist-based, aimed at ultimately developing students' thinking or reasoning skills necessary for effective language processing (including reading), including all those areas predictive for reading success, including phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension. All of LBLP's instructional approaches use a Socratic pedagogy whereby the teacher leads the learner or learners in homogenous groups, via a series of diagnostically based questions toward the area or areas needing to be stimulated. Instruction is customized and relies heavily on appropriate assessments from the most basic linguistic units all the way through the higher

level cognitive and linguistic functions including metacognition, critical thinking, language processing, and inferential thinking. Further information may be found on the Internet at the following Web site:

<http://www.lblp.com>

An independent evaluator, selected after awards are made, will work with grantees to ensure that their projects are designed and implemented in a manner that will allow for rigorous evaluation, including the assignment of project participants into literacy intervention and control groups.

Proposed Priority--Model Demonstrations to Improve the Literacy Skills and Employment Outcomes of Individuals with Disabilities:

This priority supports projects that demonstrate the effect literacy services and instruction have on improving literacy skills of targeted groups of VR consumers and the effect on their employment and earnings outcomes. Projects must demonstrate how VR offices can effectively integrate literacy services into their service delivery systems and can best provide literacy services and instruction to a targeted group of VR consumers.

Evaluation.

Projects must assure cooperation with RSA and RSA's outside evaluator in meeting the evaluation needs of the project and RSA. Project cooperation with RSA's outside evaluator must include the following:

1. The assessment of all entering VR consumers in the designated project service area using brief methodologically acceptable screening instruments for learning disabilities and literacy levels to determine their eligibility for the project. The assessment does not include VR consumers with evidence of mental retardation in their case files.

2. The assignment of approximately one-half of the eligible project participants into a literacy intervention group who would receive the additional services and benefits of the project and approximately one-half of the project participants into a control group who would not receive projects services. However, no individual in the control group can be denied literacy services if his or her Individualized Plan for Employment (IPE) requires those services. Furthermore, those services may not be provided or paid for under these demonstration grants.

3. The use of diagnostic tests and effective assessments of reading proficiency consistent with the procedures of RSA's outside evaluator.

4. The administration of a pre- and post-test to project participants as directed by RSA's outside evaluator.

Interventions.

An applicant for this competition must choose either the LBLP or the WRS for its curriculum and provide a rationale for its choice (e.g., the local adult literacy provider already uses WRS). However, an applicant may also choose to describe its capacity to use the other curriculum if it would be willing to substitute the alternative curriculum as its curriculum in order to enhance its ability to compete. RSA will select grantees in a manner to ensure that each curriculum intervention is adequately represented in the applications selected for funding.

Project Participants.

The following participant research criteria must be met:

1. Projects must have a sufficient number of individuals in the control and experimental groups so that the effects of the literacy intervention can be adequately measured.

2. Project participants must be eligible to receive VR services by the State VR agency and have, or be in the process of developing, an IPE.

3. All project participants (control and experimental groups) must be given an informed choice with respect to participation in the demonstration project consistent with

the human subjects provisions as included in the application package.

4. Project participants for the experimental and control groups must be selected using the requisite instrument. RSA requires use of the Learning Needs Screening Tool, a validated and public domain screener, which can be incorporated into the VR intake process. Copies of the screener as well as further information may be found on the Internet at the following Web site:

<http://www.seakingwdc.org/ld/WaScreenTool.htm>

Use of Funds.

Funds may be used only for project costs and related activities and may not be used to supplant the cost of services ordinarily provided by the VR program. Related activities may include, but are not limited to-- 1) counselor training or orientation, including counselor training on administration of literacy assessment instruments, 2) educational assessment and evaluation, 3) research expenses, 4) support services such as consumer transportation, childcare, and facilitation for attendance and retention, 5) instructional materials, 6) curriculum and instruction, 7) professional development for instructors and administrators, 8) assistive technology devices and services, 9) instructional technology, and 10) consultants.

Invitational Priority:

Within the priority for this competition, we are particularly interested in applications that meet the following invitational priority:

Establishing partnerships with other organizations that can assist in carrying out their respective projects related to improving literacy and employability skills of adults with disabilities.

These organizations might include Adult Education and Family Literacy (AEFL) programs, institutions of higher education, volunteer-based literacy programs, community rehabilitation programs, nonprofit or for-profit vendors of literacy services, and other workforce agencies. Applicants under this invitational priority must meet the requirements in 34 CFR 75.127 through 75.129, which governs how partnerships and other groups of eligible parties may submit applications and conduct funded projects.

Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(1) we do not give an application that meets the invitational priority a competitive or absolute preference over other applications.

Executive Order 12866

This notice of proposed priorities has been reviewed in accordance with Executive Order 12866. Under the terms of the order, we have assessed the potential costs and benefits of this regulatory action.

The potential costs associated with the notice of proposed priorities are those resulting from statutory requirements and those we have determined as necessary for administering this program effectively and efficiently.

In assessing the potential costs and benefits--both quantitative and qualitative--of this notice of proposed priorities, we have determined that the benefits of the proposed priorities justify the costs.

We have also determined that this regulatory action does not unduly interfere with State, local, and tribal governments in the exercise of their governmental functions.

Summary of potential costs and benefits:

The Assistant Secretary has determined this project to be beneficial to the ongoing research and further assistance of VR customers. No other direct financial contribution is expected of the grantee.

Intergovernmental Review

This program is subject to Executive Order 12372 and the regulations in 34 CFR part 79. One of the objectives of the Executive order is to foster an intergovernmental partnership and a strengthened federalism. The Executive order relies on processes developed by State and local governments for coordination and review of proposed Federal financial assistance.

This document provides early notification of our specific plans and actions for this program.

Applicable Program Regulations: 34 CFR part 373.

Electronic Access to This Document

You may view this document, as well as all other Department of Education documents published in the Federal Register, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site:

www.ed.gov/legislation/FedRegister

To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site. If you have questions about using PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, DC, area at (202) 512-1530.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the Federal Register. Free Internet access to the official edition of the Federal Register and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at:

<http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html>

(Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number 84.235P Special Demonstration Programs--Model Demonstration Projects to Improve the Literacy and Employment Outcomes of Individuals With Disabilities)

PROGRAM AUTHORITY: 29 U.S.C. 773(b).

Dated:

Robert H. Pasternack,
Assistant Secretary
for Special Education and
Rehabilitative Services.

4000-01-U

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

(CFDA No. 84.235P)

Special Demonstration Programs--Model Demonstrations to Improve the Literacy and Employment Outcomes of Individuals With Disabilities

Notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2003.

PURPOSE OF PROGRAM: Special Demonstration Programs support projects that expand and improve the provision of rehabilitation and other services authorized under the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (Act), or further the purposes of the Act in empowering individuals with disabilities to maximize employment, economic self-sufficiency, independence, and inclusion and integration into society. This competition focuses attention on the adult literacy needs of individuals with learning disabilities pursuing employment under the State Vocational Rehabilitation Services Program. We intend that projects funded under these priorities will demonstrate that certain specific literacy services may raise the literacy levels and earnings of individuals with disabilities compared to individuals who receive the usual vocational rehabilitation (VR) services.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS: State VR agencies.

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE: July 28, 2003.

DEADLINE FOR TRANSMITTAL OF APPLICATIONS: August 27, 2003.

DEADLINE FOR INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW: September 26, 2003.

ESTIMATED AVAILABLE FUNDS: \$1,600,000.

ESTIMATED AVERAGE SIZE OF AWARDS: \$200,000.

ESTIMATED NUMBER OF AWARDS: 8. Eight projects will be funded in total. Four projects will be funded under each of the two reading curricula described in the Background section of the notice of proposed priorities published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register.

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

PROJECT PERIOD: Up to 60 months.

PAGE LIMIT: The application narrative (Part III of the application) is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application. It is suggested that you limit Part III to 35 pages.

APPLICABLE REGULATIONS: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, 97, and 99. (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR part 373.

PRIORITIES:

Model Demonstrations to Improve the Literacy and Employment Outcomes of Individuals With Disabilities

It is the policy of the Department of Education not to solicit applications before the publication of final priorities. However, in this case it is essential to solicit applications on the basis of the notice of proposed priorities published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register, because the Department's authority to obligate these funds will expire on September 30, 2003. Applicants should base their applications on the proposed priorities. If changes are made in the final notice in response to public comments or other considerations, applicants will be given an opportunity to revise or resubmit their applications.

For FY 2003, this priority is an absolute priority. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3) we consider only applications that meet this priority.

Invitational Priority:

The invitational priority in the notice of proposed priorities published elsewhere in this issue of the Federal Register also applies to this competition.

Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(1) we do not give an application that meets the invitational priority a competitive or absolute preference over other applications.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES:

Note: Some of the procedures in these instructions for transmitting applications differ from those in the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) (34 CFR 75.102). Under the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553) the Department generally offers interested parties the opportunity to comment on proposed regulations. However, these amendments make procedural changes only and do not establish new substantive policy. Therefore, under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(A), the Secretary has determined that proposed rulemaking is not required.

Pilot Project for Electronic Submission of Applications

In FY 2003, the U.S. Department of Education is continuing to expand its pilot project for electronic submission of applications to include additional formula grant programs and additional discretionary grant competitions. The Special Demonstration Programs - CFDA number 84.235P is one of the programs included in the pilot project. If you are an applicant under the Special Demonstration Programs, you may submit your application to us in either electronic or paper format.

The pilot project involves the use of the Electronic Grant Application System (e-Application). Users of e-Application will be entering data on-line while completing their applications. You may not e-mail a soft copy of a grant application to us. If

you participate in this voluntary pilot project by submitting an application electronically, the data you enter on-line will be saved into a database. We request your participation in e-Application. We shall continue to evaluate its success and solicit suggestions for improvement.

If you participate in e-Application, please note the following:

- Your participation is voluntary.
- You will not receive any additional point value because you submit a grant application in electronic format, nor will we penalize you if you submit an application in paper format. When you enter the e-Application system, you will find information about its hours of operation.
- You may submit all documents electronically, including the Application for Federal Education Assistance (ED 424), Budget Information--Non-Construction Programs (ED 524), and all necessary assurances and certifications.
- After you electronically submit your application, you will receive an automatic acknowledgement, which will include a PR/Award number (an identifying number unique to your application).
- Within 3 working days after submitting your electronic application, fax a signed copy of the Application for Federal

Education Assistance (ED 424) to the Application Control Center after following these steps:

1. Print ED 424 from e-Application.
2. The institution's Authorizing Representative must sign this form.
3. Place the PR/Award number in the upper right hand corner of the hard copy signature page of the ED 424.
4. Fax the signed ED 424 to the Application Control Center at (202) 260-1349.

- We may request that you give us original signatures on all other forms at a later date.

- Closing Date Extension in Case of System Unavailability:

If you elect to participate in the e-Application pilot for the Special Demonstration Programs and you are prevented from submitting your application on the closing date because the e-Application system is unavailable, we will grant you an extension of 1 business day in order to transmit your application electronically, by mail, or by hand delivery. For us to grant this extension--

1. You must be a registered user of e-Application, and have initiated an e-Application for this competition; and
2. (a) The e-Application system must be unavailable for 60 minutes or more between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Washington, DC time, on the deadline date; or

(b) The e-Application system must be unavailable for any period of time during the last hour of operation (that is, for any period of time between 3:30 and 4:30 p.m., Washington, DC time) on the deadline date.

The Department must acknowledge and confirm these periods of unavailability before granting you an extension. To request this extension you must contact either (1) the person listed elsewhere in this notice under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT or (2) the e-GRANTS help desk at 1-888-336-8930.

You may access the electronic grant application for the Special Demonstration Programs at:

<http://e-grants.ed.gov>

We have included additional information about the e-Application pilot project (see Parity Guidelines between Paper and Electronic Applications) in the application package.

FOR APPLICATIONS CONTACT: Education Publications Center (ED Pubs), P.O. Box 1398, Jessup, MD 20794-1398. Telephone (toll free): 1-877-433-7827. FAX (301) 470-1244. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call (toll free): 1-877-576-7734.

You may also contact ED Pubs at its Web site:

<http://www.ed.gov/pubs/edpubs.html>

Or you may contact ED Pubs at its e-mail address:

edpubs@inet.ed.gov

If you request an application from ED Pubs, be sure to identify this competition as follows: CFDA number 84.235P.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain a copy of the application package in an alternative format by contacting the Grants and Contracts Services Team, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 3317, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-2550. Telephone: (202) 205-8207. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339. However, the Department is not able to reproduce in an alternative format the standard forms included in the application package.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Susan-Marie Marsh, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 3316, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-2650. Telephone: (202) 358-2796, or via Internet:

susan-marie.marsh@ed.gov.

If you use a TDD, you may call FIRS at 1-800-877-8339. Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g. Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the program contact person listed in the preceding paragraph.

Electronic Access to This Document

You may view this document, as well as all other Department of Education documents published in the Federal Register, in text or Adobe Portable Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at the following site:

www.ed.gov/legislation/FedRegister

To use PDF you must have Adobe Acrobat Reader, which is available free at this site. If you have questions about using PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, DC, area at (202) 512-1530.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the Federal Register. Free Internet access to the official edition of the Federal Register and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at:

<http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html>

PROGRAM AUTHORITY: 29 U.S.C. 773(b).

Dated:

Loretta Petty Chittum,
Acting Assistant Secretary
for Special Education and
Rehabilitative Services.

Section C

Selection Criteria

PROGRAM TITLE: Projects and Demonstrations to Improve The Literacy and Employment Outcomes of Individuals of Disabilities Program

(CFDA Number: 84.235P)

SELECTION CRITERIA: The Secretary uses the following criteria to evaluate applications for new awards under the Projects and Demonstrations to Improve The Literacy and Employment Outcomes of Individuals of Disabilities Program:

(a) Quality of the project design (20 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the design of the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of the design of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The extent to which the goals, objectives, and outcomes to be achieved by the proposed project are clearly specified and measurable.

(ii) The extent to which the design of the proposed project includes a thorough, high-quality review of the relevant literature, a high-quality plan for project implementation, and the use of appropriate methodological tools to ensure successful achievement of project objectives.

(iv) The extent to which the design for implementing and evaluating the proposed project will result in information to guide possible replication of project activities or strategies, including information about the effectiveness of the approach or strategies employed by the project.

(v) The extent to which the proposed project will establish linkages with other appropriate agencies and organizations providing services to the target population.

(vi) The extent to which the proposed project is part of a comprehensive effort to improve teaching and learning and support rigorous academic standards for students.

(b) Quality of project services (25 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the services to be provided by the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of the services to be provided by the proposed project, the Secretary considers the quality and sufficiency of strategies for ensuring equal access and treatment for eligible project participants who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.

(3) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The extent to which the services to be provided by the proposed project are appropriate to the needs of the intended recipients or beneficiaries of those services.

(ii) The likely impact of the services to be provided by the proposed project on the intended recipients of those services.

(ii) The likelihood that the services to be provided by the proposed project will lead to improvements in the skills necessary to gain employment or build capacity for independent living.

(iii) The extent to which the services to be provided by the proposed project involve the collaboration of appropriate partners for maximizing the effectiveness of project services.

(c) Quality of project personnel (10 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the personnel who will carry out the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of project personnel, the Secretary considers the extent to which the applicant encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.

(3) In addition, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of the project director or principal investigator.

(ii) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel.

(d) Adequacy of resources (10 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the adequacy of resources for the proposed project.

(2) In determining the adequacy of resources for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The extent to which the budget is adequate to support the proposed project.

(ii) The extent to which the costs are reasonable in relation to the number of persons to be served and to the anticipated results and benefits.

(iii) The adequacy of support, including facilities, equipment, supplies, and other resources, from the applicant organization or the lead applicant organization.

(e) Quality of the management plan (10 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the management plan for the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of the management plan for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks.

(ii) The adequacy of procedures for ensuring feedback and continuous improvement in the operation of the proposed project.

(f) Quality of the project evaluation (10 points)

(1) The Secretary considers the quality of the evaluation to be conducted of the proposed project.

(2) In determining the quality of the evaluation, the Secretary considers the following factors:

(i) The extent to which the methods of evaluation are thorough, feasible, and appropriate to the goals, objectives, and outcomes of the proposed project.

(ii) The extent to which the methods of evaluation are appropriate to the context within which the project operates.

(iii) The extent to which the methods of evaluation provide for examining the effectiveness of project implementation strategies.

(iv) The extent to which the methods of evaluation include the use of objective performance measures that are clearly related to the intended outcomes of the project and will produce quantitative and qualitative data to the extent possible.

(v) The extent to which the methods of evaluation will provide performance feedback and permit periodic assessment of progress toward achieving intended outcomes.

(vi) The extent to which the evaluation will provide guidance about effective strategies suitable for replication or testing in other settings.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Susan-Marie Marsh, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 3332, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-2575. Telephone: (202) 358-2796. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

Section D

Summary of Important Points in Preparing an Application

SUMMARY OF IMPORTANT POINTS IN PREPARING AN APPLICATION

- Pay particular attention to the eligibility criteria in the Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards (Section B) to determine if your organization meets the criteria. **All the elements under the eligibility criteria in the statute must be addressed, and assurances provided in the application that show how they will be addressed.**
- Read through the entire application before addressing it.
- Organize the narrative in accordance with the selection criteria (Section C) included in this application package. Address all criteria.
- Remember that a one-page abstract of the project must be provided.
- Number all pages to make it easier for the reader to refer to a page number when comments are given (including the appendices).
- Provide a table of contents for the application.
- Try to keep the narrative to 50 pages, double-spaced. The abstract may be single-spaced.
- Address the needs of individuals with disabilities from minority backgrounds (Section 21 of the Act) in the narrative. Identify the place where this is located in the table of contents.
- Address the availability and purposes of the State Client Assistance Program (CAP), including information on the means of seeking assistance under such a program (Section 20 of the Act), in the narrative. Identify the place where this is located in the table of contents.
- Prepare a budget detail and narrative for each year of the project.
- Pay particular attention to the application submission information contained in the Dear Applicant letter in Part A of this application package. All applications must be postmarked by the closing date. **Applications that are postmarked after the closing date will be returned to the sender, and will not be reviewed.**

Section E

Application Transmittal Instructions

Note: Some of the procedures in these instructions for transmitting applications differ from those in the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) (34 CFR 75.102). Under the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553) the Department generally offers interested parties the opportunity to comment on proposed regulations. However, these amendments make procedural changes only and do not establish new substantive policy. Therefore, under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(A), the Secretary has determined that proposed rulemaking is not required.

Pilot Project for Electronic Submission of Applications

In Fiscal Year 2003, the U.S. Department of Education is continuing to expand its pilot project of electronic submission of applications to include additional formula grant programs and additional discretionary grant competitions. The Projects and Demonstrations to Improve the Literacy and Employment Outcomes of Individuals with Disabilities program (CFDA 84.235P) is one of the programs included in the pilot project. If you are an applicant under the Projects and Demonstrations to Improve the Literacy and Employment Outcomes of Individuals with Disabilities program, you may submit your application to us in either electronic or paper format.

The pilot project involves the use of the Electronic Grant Application System (e-APPLICATION, formerly e-GAPS) portion of the Grant Administration and Payment System (GAPS). We request your participation in this pilot project. We shall continue to evaluate its success and solicit suggestions for improvement.

If you participate in this e-APPLICATION pilot, please note the following:

- Your participation is voluntary.
- You will not receive any additional point value or penalty because you submit a grant application in electronic or paper format.
- You can submit all documents electronically, including the Application for Federal Assistance (ED 424), Budget Information--Non-Construction Programs (ED 524), and all necessary assurances and certifications.
- Within three working days of submitting your electronic application fax a signed copy of the Application for Federal Assistance (ED 424) to the Application Control Center after following these steps:
 1. Print ED 424 from the e-APPLICATION system.
 2. Make sure that the institution's Authorizing Representative signs this form.

3. Before faxing this form, submit your electronic application via the e-APPLICATION system. You will receive an automatic acknowledgement, which will include a PR/Award number (an identifying number unique to your application).
 4. Place the PR/Award number in the upper right hand corner of ED 424.
 5. Fax ED 424 to the Application Control Center at (202) 260-1349.
- We may request that you give us original signatures on all other forms at a later date. You may access the electronic grant application for the (Program Name) at:

<http://e-grants.ed.gov>

We have included additional information about the e-APPLICATION pilot project (see Parity Guidelines between Paper and Electronic Applications) in the application package. If you want to apply for a grant and be considered for funding, you must meet the following deadline requirements:

(A) If You Send Your Application by Mail:

You must mail the original and two copies of the application on or before the deadline date. To help expedite our review of your application, we would appreciate you voluntarily including three (3) additional copies of your application. Mail your application to:

**U.S. Department of Education
Application Control Center
Attention: CFDA 84.235P
7th & D Streets, SW, Room 3671
Regional Office Building 3
Washington, DC 20202-4725**

You must show one of the following as proof of mailing:

- (1) A legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark.
- (2) A legible mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the U.S. Postal Service.
- (3) A dated shipping label, invoice, or receipt from a commercial carrier.
- (4) Any other proof of mailing acceptable to the Secretary.

If you mail an application through the U.S. Postal Service, we do not accept either of the following as proof of mailing:

- (1) A private metered postmark.
- (2) A mail receipt that is not dated by the U.S. Postal Service.

(B) If You Deliver Your Application by Hand:

You or your courier must hand deliver the original and two copies of the application by 4:30 p.m., Eastern Standard Time (EST) on or before the deadline date. To help expedite our review of your application, we would appreciate you voluntarily including 3 additional copies of your application. Deliver your application to:

U.S. Department of Education
Application Control Center
Attention: CFDA # 84.235P
7th & D Streets, SW, Room 3671
Regional Office Building 3
Washington, DC 20202-4725

The Application Control Center accepts application deliveries daily between 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. EST, except Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays. The Center accepts application deliveries through the D Street entrance only. A person delivering an application must show identification to enter the building.

(C) If You Submit Your Application Electronically:

You must submit your grant application through the Internet using the software provided on the e-Grants Web site (<http://e-grants.ed.gov>) by 4:30 p.m. (Washington, DC time) on the deadline date.

The regular hours of operation of the e-Grants Web site are 6:00 a.m. until 12:00 midnight Eastern Standard Time (EST). Monday - Friday and 6:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. Saturdays. The system is unavailable on the second Saturday of every month, Sundays, and Federal holidays. Please note that on Wednesdays the Web site is closed for maintenance at 7:00 p.m. EST.

Notes:

(1) The U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, you should check with your local post office.

(2) If you send your application by mail or if you or your courier delivers it by hand, the Application Control Center will mail a Grant Application Receipt Acknowledgment to you. If you do not receive the notification of application receipt within 15 days from the date of mailing the application, you should call the U.S. Department of Education Application Control Center at (202) 708-9493.

(3) If your application is late, we will notify you that we will not consider the application.

(4) You must indicate on the envelope and--if not provided by the Department--in Item 4 of the Application for Federal Education Assistance ED 424 (exp. 11/30/2004)) the CFDA number--and suffix letter, if any -- of the competition under which you are submitting your application. If you submit your application through the Internet via the e-Grants Web site, you will receive an automatic acknowledgment when we receive your application.

PARITY GUIDELINES BETWEEN PAPER AND ELECTRONIC APPLICATIONS

In FY 2003, the U.S. Department of Education is continuing to expand the pilot project, which began in FY 2000, which allows applicants to use an Internet-based electronic system for submitting applications. This competition is among those that have an electronic submission option available to all applicants. The system, called e-APPLICATION, formerly e-GAPS (Electronic Grant Application System), allows an applicant to submit a grant application to us electronically, using a current version of the applicant's Internet browser. To see e-APPLICATION visit the following address:

<http://e-grants.ed.gov>

Users of e-APPLICATION, a data driven system, will be entering data on-line while completing their applications. This will be more interactive than just e-mailing a soft copy of a grant application to us. If you participate in this voluntary pilot project by submitting an application electronically, the data you enter on-line will go into a database and ultimately will be accessible in electronic form to our reviewers.

This pilot project continues the Department's transition to an electronic grant award process. In addition to e-APPLICATION, the Department plans to expand the number of discretionary programs using the electronic peer review (e-READER) system and to increase the participation of discretionary programs offering grantees the use of the electronic annual performance reporting (e-REPORTS) system.

To help ensure parity and a similar look between electronic and paper copies of grant applications, we are asking each applicant that submits a paper application to adhere to the following guidelines:

- Submit your application on 8 ½" by 11" paper.
- Leave a 1-inch margin on all sides.
- Use consistent font throughout your document. You may also use boldface type, underlining, and italics. However, please do not use colored text.
- Please use black and white, also, for illustrations, including charts, tables, graphs and pictures.
- For the narrative component, your application should consist of the number and text of each selection criterion followed by the narrative. The text of the selection criterion, if included, does not count against any page limitation.
- Place a page number at the bottom right of each page beginning with 1; and number your

pages consecutively throughout your document.

SECTION F

APPLICATION FORMS

**U.S. Department of Education
Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services**

**REHABILITATION SERVICES ADMINISTRATION
INSTRUCTIONS FOR AN APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE
(Nonconstruction Programs)**

The enclosed forms shall be used by all applicants for Federal Assistance under all Rehabilitation Services Administration programs. A separate application must be submitted for each grant sought. No grant may be awarded unless the completed application forms have been received. If an item does not appear to be relevant to the assistance requested, write "NA" for not applicable.

This application consists of four parts. These parts are organized in the same manner that the submitted application should be organized. These parts are as follows:

- Part I** - Federal Assistance Application Face Page
- Part II** - Budget Information
- Part III** - Program Narrative
- Part IV** - Assurances, Certifications and Disclosures

Each submitted application must include an index or table of contents and a one-page project abstract. Pages should be consecutively numbered.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1820-0018. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 40 hours per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

Under terms of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, as amended, and the regulations implementing that Act, the Department of Education invites comment on the public reporting burden in this collection of information. You may send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the U.S. Department of Education, Information Management and Compliance Division, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651; and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project 1820-0018, Washington, D.C. 20503.

Application for Federal Education Assistance (ED 424)



U.S. Department of Education

Form Approved
OMB No. 1875-0106
Exp. 11/30/2004

Applicant Information

1. Name and Address

Legal Name: _____

Address: _____

City _____

State _____

County _____

ZIP Code + 4 _____

2. Applicant's D-U-N-S Number |____|____|____|____|____|____|____|____|____|____|

3. Applicant's T-I-N |____|____| - |____|____|____|____|____|____|

4. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance #: **84.** |____|____|____|____|

Title: _____

5. Project Director: _____

Address: _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code + 4 _____

Tel. #: () _____ - _____ Fax #: () _____ - _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Organizational Unit

6. Novice Applicant ___ Yes ___ No

7. Is the applicant delinquent on any Federal debt? ___ Yes ___ No
(If "Yes," attach an explanation.)

8. Type of Applicant (Enter appropriate letter in the box.) |____|

A - State
B - Local
C - Special District
D - Indian Tribe
E - Individual
F - Independent School District
G - Public College or University
H - Private, Non-profit College or University
I - Non-profit Organization
J - Private, Profit-Making Organization

K - Other (Specify): _____

Application Information

9. Type of Submission:

-PreApplication *-Application*
___ Construction ___ Construction
___ Non-Construction ___ Non-Construction

10. Is application subject to review by Executive Order 12372 process?

___ Yes (Date made available to the Executive Order 12372
process for review): ____/____/____

___ No (If "No," check appropriate box below.)

___ Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.
___ Program has not been selected by State for review.

11. Proposed Project Dates: ____/____/____

Start Date:

End Date:

12. Are any research activities involving human subjects planned at any time during the proposed project period?

___ Yes (Go to 12a.) ___ No (Go to item 13.)

12a. Are all the research activities proposed designated to be exempt from the regulations?

___ Yes (Provide Exemption(s) #): _____

___ No (Provide Assurance #): _____

13. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:

Estimated Funding

14a. Federal \$ _____ .00

b. Applicant \$ _____ .00

c. State \$ _____ .00

d. Local \$ _____ .00

e. Other \$ _____ .00

f. Program Income \$ _____ .00

g. TOTAL \$ _____ .00

Authorized Representative Information

15. To the best of my knowledge and belief, all data in this preapplication/application are true

and correct. The document has been duly authorized by the governing body of the applicant

and the applicant will comply with the attached assurances if the assistance is awarded.

a. Authorized Representative (Please type or print name clearly.)

b. Title: _____

c. Tel. #: () _____ - _____ Fax #: () _____ - _____

d. E-Mail Address: _____

e. Signature of Authorized Representative

_____ Date: ____/____/____

Instructions for Form ED 424

- 1. Legal Name and Address.** Enter the legal name of applicant and the name of the primary organizational unit, which will undertake the assistance activity.
- 2. D-U-N-S Number.** Enter the applicant's D-U-N-S Number. If your organization does not have a D-U-N-S Number, you can obtain the number by calling 1-800-333-0505 or by completing a D-U-N-S Number Request Form. The form can be obtained via the Internet at the following URL: <http://www.dnb.com>.
- 3. Tax Identification Number.** Enter the taxpayer's identification number as assigned by the Internal Revenue Service.
- 4. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number.** Enter the CFDA number and title of the program under which assistance is requested. The CFDA number can be found in the federal register notice and the application package.
- 5. Project Director.** Name, address, telephone and fax numbers, and e-mail address of the person to be contacted on matters involving this application.
- 6. Novice Applicant.** Check "Yes" or "No" only if assistance is being requested under a program that gives special consideration to novice applicants. Otherwise, **leave blank**.

Check "Yes" if you meet the requirements for novice applicants specified in the regulations in 34 CFR 75.225 and included on the attached page entitled "Definitions for Form ED 424." By checking "Yes" the applicant certifies that it meets these novice applicant requirements. Check "No" if you do not meet the requirements for novice applicants.

- 7. Federal Debt Delinquency.** Check "Yes" if the applicant's organization is delinquent on any Federal debt. (This question refers to the applicant's organization and not to the person who signs as the authorized representative. Categories of debt include delinquent audit disallowances, loans and taxes.) Otherwise, check "No."
- 8. Type of Applicant.** Enter the appropriate letter in the box provided.
- 9. Type of Submission.** See "Definitions for Form ED 424" attached.
- 10. Executive Order 12372.** See "Definitions for Form ED 424" attached. Check "Yes" if the application is subject to review by E.O. 12372. Also, please enter the month, day, and four (4) digit year (e.g., 12/12/2001). Otherwise, check "No."
- 11. Proposed Project Dates.** Please enter the month, day, and four (4) digit year (e.g., 12/12/2001).
- 12. Human Subjects Research.** (See I. A. "Definitions" in attached page entitled "Definitions for Form ED 424.")

If Not Human Subjects Research. Check "No" if research activities involving human subjects are not planned at any time

during the proposed project period. The remaining parts of Item 12 are then not applicable.

If Human Subjects Research. Check "Yes" if research activities involving human subjects are planned at any time during the proposed project period, either at the applicant organization or at any other performance site or collaborating institution. Check "Yes" even if the research is exempt from the regulations for the protection of human subjects. (See I. B. "Exemptions" in attached page entitled "Definitions for Form ED 424.")

12a. If Human Subjects Research is Exempt from the Human Subjects Regulations. Check "Yes" if all the research activities proposed are designated to be exempt from the regulations. Insert the exemption number(s) corresponding to one or more of the six exemption categories listed in I. B. "Exemptions." In addition, follow the instructions in II. A. "Exempt Research Narrative" in the attached page entitled "Definitions for Form ED 424." Insert this narrative immediately following the ED 424 face page.

12a. If Human Subjects Research is Not Exempt from Human Subjects Regulations. Check "No" if some or all of the planned research activities are covered (not exempt). In addition, follow the instructions in II. B. "Nonexempt Research Narrative" in the page entitled "Definitions for Form ED 424." Insert this narrative immediately following the ED 424 face page.

12a. Human Subjects Assurance Number. If the applicant has an approved Federal Wide (FWA) or Multiple Project Assurance (MPA) with the Office for Human Research Protections (OHRP), U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, that covers the specific activity, insert the number in the space provided. If the applicant does not have an approved assurance on file with OHRP, enter "None." In this case, the applicant, by signature on the face page, is declaring that it will comply with 34 CFR 97 and proceed to obtain the human subjects assurance upon request by the designated ED official. If the application is recommended/selected for funding, the designated ED official will request that the applicant obtain the assurance within 30 days after the specific formal request.

Note about Institutional Review Board Approval. ED does not require certification of Institutional Review Board approval with the application. However, if an application that involves non-exempt human subjects research is recommended/selected for funding, the designated ED official will request that the applicant obtain and send the certification to ED within 30 days after the formal request.

13. Project Title. Enter a brief descriptive title of the project. If more than one program is involved, you should append an explanation on a separate sheet. If appropriate (e.g., construction or real property projects), attach a map showing project location. For preapplications, use a separate sheet to provide a summary description of this project.

14. Estimated Funding. Amount requested or to be contributed during the first funding/budget period by each contributor. Value of in-kind contributions should be included on appropriate lines as applicable. If the action will result in a dollar change to an

existing award, indicate **only** the amount of the change. For decreases, enclose the amounts in parentheses. If both basic and supplemental amounts are included, show breakdown on an attached sheet. For multiple program funding, use totals and show breakdown using same categories as item 14.

- 15. Certification.** To be signed by the authorized representative of the applicant. A copy of the governing body's authorization for you to sign this application as official representative must be on file in the applicant's office. Be sure to enter the telephone and fax number and e-mail address of the authorized representative. Also, in item 15e, please enter the month, day, and four (4) digit year (e.g., 12/12/2001) in the date signed field.

Paperwork Burden Statement. According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a

collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is **1875-0106**. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average between 15 and 45 minutes per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. **If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to:** U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651. **If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form write directly to:** Joyce I. Mays, Application Control Center, U.S. Department of Education, 7th and D Streets, S.W. ROB-3, Room 3671, Washington, D.C. 20202-4725

Definitions for Form ED 424

Novice Applicant (See 34 CFR 75.225). For discretionary grant programs under which the Secretary gives special consideration to novice applications, a novice applicant means any applicant for a grant from ED that—

- Has never received a grant or subgrant under the program from which it seeks funding;
- Has never been a member of a group application, submitted in accordance with 34 CFR 75.127-75.129, that received a grant under the program from which it seeks funding; and
- Has not had an active discretionary grant from the Federal government in the five years before the deadline date for applications under the program. For the purposes of this requirement, a grant is active until the end of the grant's project or funding period, including any extensions of those periods that extend the grantee's authority to obligate funds.

In the case of a group application submitted in accordance with 34 CFR 75.127-75.129, a group includes only parties that meet the requirements listed above.

Type of Submission. "Construction" includes construction of new buildings and acquisition, expansion, remodeling, and alteration of existing buildings, and initial equipment of any such buildings, or any combination of such activities (including architects' fees and the cost of acquisition of land). "Construction" also includes remodeling to meet standards, remodeling designed to conserve energy, renovation or remodeling to accommodate new technologies, and the purchase of existing historic buildings for conversion to public libraries. For the purposes of this paragraph, the term "equipment" includes machinery, utilities, and built-in equipment and any necessary enclosures or structures to house them; and such term includes all other items necessary for the functioning of a particular facility as a facility for the provision of library services.

Executive Order 12372. The purpose of Executive Order 12372 is to foster an intergovernmental partnership and strengthen federalism by relying on State and local processes for the coordination and review of proposed Federal financial assistance and direct Federal development. The application notice, as published in the Federal Register, informs the applicant as to whether the program is subject to the requirements of E.O. 12372. In addition, the application package contains information on the State Single Point of Contact. An applicant is still eligible to apply for a grant or grants even if its respective State, Territory, Commonwealth, etc. does not have a State Single Point of Contact. For additional information on E.O. 12372 go to <http://www.cfda.gov/public/eo12372.htm>.

PROTECTION OF HUMAN SUBJECTS IN RESEARCH

I. Definitions and Exemptions

A. Definitions.

A research activity involves human subjects if the activity is research, as defined in the Department's regulations, and the research activity will involve use of human subjects, as defined in the regulations.

—Research

The ED Regulations for the Protection of Human Subjects, Title 34, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 97, define research as "a systematic investigation, including research development, testing and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge." *If an activity follows a deliberate plan whose purpose is to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge it is research.* Activities, which meet this definition, constitute research whether or not they are conducted or supported under a program that is considered research for other purposes. For example, some demonstration and service programs may include research activities.

—Human Subject

The regulations define human subject as "a living individual about whom an investigator (whether professional or student) conducting research obtains (1) data through intervention or interaction with the individual, or (2) identifiable private information." *(1) If an activity involves obtaining information about a living person by manipulating that person or that person's environment, as might occur when a new instructional technique is tested, or by communicating or interacting with the individual, as occurs with surveys and interviews, the definition of human subject is met. (2) If an activity involves obtaining private information about a living person in such a way that the information can be linked to that individual (the identity of the subject is or may be readily determined by the investigator or associated with the information), the definition of human subject is met.* [Private information includes information about behavior that occurs in a context in which an individual can reasonably expect that no observation or recording is taking place, and information which has been provided for specific purposes by an individual and which the individual can reasonably expect will not be made public (for example, a school health record).]

B. Exemptions.

Research activities in which the **only** involvement of human subjects will be in one or more of the following six categories of **exemptions** are not covered by the regulations:

(1) Research conducted in established or commonly accepted educational settings, involving normal educational practices, such as (a) research on regular and special education instructional strategies, or (b) research on the effectiveness of or the comparison among instructional techniques, curricula, or classroom management methods.

(2) Research involving the use of educational tests (cognitive, diagnostic, aptitude, achievement), survey procedures, interview procedures or observation of public behavior, unless: (a) information obtained is recorded in such a manner that human subjects can be identified, directly or through identifiers linked to the subjects; and (b) any disclosure of the human subjects' responses outside the research could reasonably place the subjects at risk of criminal or civil liability or be damaging to the subjects' financial standing, employability, or reputation. *If the subjects are children, exemption 2 applies only to research involving educational tests and observations of public behavior when the investigator(s) do not participate in the activities being observed. Exemption 2 does not apply if children are surveyed or interviewed or if the research involves observation of public behavior and the investigator(s) participate in the activities being observed.* [Children are defined as

persons who have not attained the legal age for consent to treatments or procedures involved in the research, under the applicable law or jurisdiction in which the research will be conducted.]

(3) Research involving the use of educational tests (cognitive, diagnostic, aptitude, achievement), survey procedures, interview procedures or observation of public behavior that is not exempt under section (2) above, if the human subjects are elected or appointed public officials or candidates for public office; or federal statute(s) require(s) without exception that the confidentiality of the personally identifiable information will be maintained throughout the research and thereafter.

(4) Research involving the collection or study of existing data, documents, records, pathological specimens, or diagnostic specimens, if these sources are publicly available or if the information is recorded by the investigator in a manner that subjects cannot be identified, directly or through identifiers linked to the subjects.

(5) Research and demonstration projects which are conducted by or subject to the approval of department or agency heads, and which are designed to study, evaluate, or otherwise examine: (a) public benefit or service programs; (b) procedures for obtaining benefits or services under those programs; (c) possible changes in or alternatives to those programs or procedures; or (d) possible changes in methods or levels of payment for benefits or services under those programs.

(6) Taste and food quality evaluation and consumer acceptance studies, (a) if wholesome foods without additives are consumed or (b) if a food is consumed that contains a food ingredient at or below the level and for a use found to be safe, or agricultural chemical or environmental contaminant at or below the level found to be safe, by the Food and Drug Administration or approved by the Environmental Protection Agency or the Food Safety and Inspection Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

II. Instructions for Exempt and Nonexempt Human Subjects Research Narratives

If the applicant marked “Yes” for Item 12 on the ED 424, the applicant must provide a human subjects “exempt research” or “nonexempt research” narrative and insert it immediately following the ED 424 face page.

A. Exempt Research Narrative.

If you marked “Yes” for item 12 a. and designated exemption numbers(s), provide the “exempt research” narrative. The narrative must contain sufficient information about the involvement of human subjects in the proposed research to allow a determination by ED that the designated exemption(s) are appropriate. The narrative must be succinct.

B. Nonexempt Research Narrative.

If you marked “No” for item 12 a. you must provide the “nonexempt research” narrative. The narrative must address the following seven points. Although no specific page limitation applies to this section of the application, be succinct.

(1) **Human Subjects Involvement and Characteristics:** Provide a detailed description of the proposed involvement of human subjects. Describe the characteristics of the subject population, including their anticipated number, age range, and health status. Identify the criteria for inclusion or exclusion of any subpopulation. Explain the rationale for the involvement of special classes of subjects, such as children, children with disabilities, adults with disabilities, persons with mental disabilities, pregnant women, prisoners, institutionalized individuals, or others who are likely to be vulnerable

(2) **Sources of Materials:** Identify the sources of research material obtained from individually identifiable living human subjects in the form of specimens, records, or data. Indicate whether the material or data will be obtained specifically for research purposes or whether use will be made of existing specimens, records, or data.

(3) **Recruitment and Informed Consent:** Describe plans for the recruitment of subjects and the consent procedures to be followed. Include the circumstances under which consent will be sought and obtained, who will seek it, the nature of the information to be provided to prospective subjects, and the method of documenting consent. State if the Institutional Review Board (IRB) has authorized a modification or waiver of the elements of consent or the requirement for documentation of consent.

(4) **Potential Risks:** Describe potential risks (physical, psychological, social, legal, or other) and assess their likelihood and seriousness. Where appropriate, describe alternative treatments and procedures that might be advantageous to the subjects.

(5) **Protection Against Risk:** Describe the procedures for protecting against or minimizing potential risks, including risks to confidentiality, and assess their likely effectiveness. Where appropriate, discuss provisions for ensuring necessary medical or professional intervention in the event of adverse effects to the subjects. Also, where appropriate, describe the provisions for monitoring the data collected to ensure the safety of the subjects.

(6) **Importance of the Knowledge to be Gained:** Discuss the importance of the knowledge gained or to be gained as a result of the proposed research. Discuss why the risks to subjects are reasonable in relation to the anticipated benefits to subjects and in relation to the importance of the knowledge that may reasonably be expected to result.

(7) **Collaborating Site(s):** If research involving human subjects will take place at collaborating site(s) or other performance site(s), name the sites and briefly describe their involvement or role in the research.

Copies of the Department of Education’s Regulations for the Protection of Human Subjects, 34 CFR Part 97 and other pertinent materials on the protection of human subjects in research are available from the Grants Policy and Oversight Staff, Office of the Chief Financial Officer, U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202-4248, telephone: (202) 708-8263, and on the U.S. Department of Education’s Protection of Human Subjects in Research Web Site at <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OCFO/humansub.html>

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION****BUDGET INFORMATION****NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS**

OMB Control Number: 1890-0004

Expiration Date: October 31, 2003

Name of Institution/Organization

Applicants requesting funding for only one year should complete the column under "Project Year 1." Applicants requesting funding for multi-year grants should complete all applicable columns. Please read all instructions before completing form.

**SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FUNDS**

Budget Categories	Project Year 1 (a)	Project Year 2 (b)	Project Year 3 (c)	Project Year 4 (d)	Project Year 5 (e)	Total (f)
1. Personnel						
2. Fringe Benefits						
3. Travel						
4. Equipment						
5. Supplies						
6. Contractual						
7. Construction						
8. Other						
9. Total Direct Costs (lines 1-8)						
10. Indirect Costs						
11. Training Stipends						
12. Total Costs (lines 9-11)						

Name of Institution/Organization	Applicants requesting funding for only one year should complete the column under "Project Year 1." Applicants requesting funding for multi-year grants should complete all applicable columns. Please read all instructions before completing form.
----------------------------------	---

<p align="center">SECTION B - BUDGET SUMMARY NON-FEDERAL FUNDS</p>
--

Budget Categories	Project Year 1 (a)	Project Year 2 (b)	Project Year 3 (c)	Project Year 4 (d)	Project Year 5 (e)	Total (f)
1. Personnel						
2. Fringe Benefits						
3. Travel						
4. Equipment						
5. Supplies						
6. Contractual						
7. Construction						
8. Other						
9. Total Direct Costs (lines 1-8)						
10. Indirect Costs						
11. Training Stipends						
12. Total Costs (lines 9-11)						

<p align="center">SECTION C - OTHER BUDGET INFORMATION (see instructions)</p>
--

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to vary from 13 to 22 hours per response, with an average of 17.5 hours per response, including the time reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the U.S. Department of Education, Information Management and Compliance Division, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project 1875-0102, Washington DC 20503.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ED FORM 524

General Instructions

This form is used to apply to individual U.S. Department of Education discretionary grant programs. Unless directed otherwise, provide the same budget information for each year of the multi-year funding request. Pay attention to applicable program specific instructions, if attached.

Section A - Budget Summary U.S. Department of Education Funds

All applicants must complete Section A and provide a breakdown by the applicable budget categories shown in lines 1-11.

Lines 1-11, columns (a)-(e): For each project year for which funding is requested, show the total amount requested for each applicable budget category.

Lines 1-11, column (f): Show the multi-year total for each budget category. If funding is requested for only one project year, leave this column blank.

Line 12, columns (a)-(e): Show the total budget request for each project year for which funding is requested.

Line 12, column (f): Show the total amount requested for all project years. If funding is requested for only one year, leave this space blank.

Section B - Budget Summary Non-Federal Funds

If you are required to provide or volunteer to provide matching funds or other non-Federal resources to the project, these should be shown for each applicable budget category on lines 1-11 of Section B.

Lines 1-11, columns (a)-(e): For each project year for which matching funds or other contributions are provided, show the total contribution for each applicable budget category.

Lines 1-11, column (f): Show the multi-year total for each budget category. If non-Federal contributions are provided for only one year, leave this column blank.

Line 12, columns (a)-(e): Show the total matching or other contribution for each project year.

Line 12, column (f): Show the total amount to be contributed for all years of the multi-year project. If non-Federal contributions are provided for only one year, leave this space blank.

Section C - Other Budget Information Pay attention to applicable program specific instructions, if attached.

1. Provide an itemized budget breakdown, by project year, for each budget category listed in Sections A and B.
2. If applicable to this program, enter the type of indirect rate (provisional, predetermined, final or fixed) that will be in effect during the funding period. In addition, enter the estimated amount of the base to which the rate is applied, and the total indirect expense.
3. If applicable to this program, provide the rate and base on which fringe benefits are calculated.
4. Provide other explanations or comments you deem necessary.

Section D - BUDGET DETAIL/NARRATIVE

Attach separate sheets to fully explain and justify the following budget categories in support of the FEDERAL funding request. (Section A) and the non-Federal Funds (Section B).

Include sufficient detail to facilitate determination as to allowability, relevance to the project, and cost benefits.

1. **Personnel**: Show the salary and wages, title, and time commitment of all persons charged to the

project. Consultant fees and expenses must be included in Line 8.

2. **Fringe Benefits:** Include contributions for Social Security, employee insurance, pension plans, etc. Leave blank if fringe benefits applicable to direct salaries and wages are treated as part of the indirect cost rate.

3. **Travel:** Itemize the amount requested for travel of employees only. Travel of consultants, trainees, etc. should not go on this line, nor should local transportation costs for project staff (i.e., where no out-of-town trip is involved); these costs should be listed under the category of "Other."

While all travel must be fully justified foreign travel should be separately identified and justified. No foreign travel will be authorized under the grant unless prior approval is obtained.

4. **Equipment:** List nonexpendable personal property that has a useful life of more than two years and an acquisition cost of \$500 or more per unit. However, consistent with institutional policy, lower limits may be established. List items of equipment in the following format: Item, Number of Units, Cost per Unit, and Total Cost. Fully justify the need for each item of equipment.

5. **Supplies:** Include the cost of consumable supplies and materials to be used in the project. These should be items, which cost less than \$300 per unit with a useful life of less than two years.

6. **Contractual:** Show all amounts for each of the Following: (1) procurement contracts (except those which belong on other lines such as supplies and equipment listed above) and (2) grant payments to secondary recipient organizations such as delegate agencies, affiliates, cooperating institutions, political subdivisions, etc. Indicate the name of the agency, organization, or individual that is expected to receive each proposed contract. This should be supported in Part III - Program Narrative.

Note: Whenever the applicant intends to delegate part or all of the program to another agency, the applicant must submit, if available, a copy of the proposed contract or grant payment and any other supporting documentation detailing the activity and required budget of each delegate agency. If the proposed contract or grant payment has not yet been advertised and/or negotiated, the applicant should provide any basis available that was used in developing the proposed

contract/grant payment costs. Delegate agencies are not required to submit separate budget information for their portion of the total contractual budget. The total cost of all such agencies will be part of the amount shown on Line 6.

7. **Other:** Provide an itemized list of all remaining direct costs not clearly covered by lines 1-6 above. Examples are computer use charges, space or equipment rental, consultant costs, communication costs, rental of space, utilities and custodial services, printing materials, and local transportation.

For consultant expenses, give the total number of consultants that will work on the project and their costs (fees, per diem, and travel). Provide the basis for the determination of the rate identified for consultant costs for which Federal funds are requested. The justification should demonstrate how the consultant costs are reasonable, customary and consistent with the established institutional/organizational/agency policy governing consultant costs.

8. **Total Direct Costs:** Total lines 1 through 8.

9. **Total Indirect Costs:** Indirect costs are those costs of an organization that are not readily identifiable with a particular project or activity but are necessary for the general operation of the organization and the conduct of its activities.

Indicate your indirect cost rate and the amount of indirect costs to be charged to the project. If no indirect costs are requested, enter "none." This line should be used only when the applicant (except local government(s) has an indirect cost rate approved by the Department of Education (ED) or another Federal agency. Local governments shall enter the amount of indirect costs determined in accordance with ED requirements.

PART III - PROGRAM NARRATIVE AND SCHEDULE OF TRAINEE EXPENSE

Prepare the Program Narrative in accordance with the following instructions. Before preparing the Program Narrative, applicants should carefully review the program regulations contained in this application package, paying special attention to the selection criteria. The Program Narrative must respond to the special emphasis of the specific program for which grant support is being requested and the selection criteria identified in the program regulations.

In addition, applicants should read the applicable parts of the Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR), 34 CFR. These regulations set forth all general rules affecting application submittal, review, grant award, and post-award administration for Department of Education grant programs.

The recent reauthorize version of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, includes three new requirements for all applicants under the Rehabilitation Long-Term Training program. Each of these must be addressed in your application. Applications that do not include the following information will not be funded:

- (A) a description of how the designed State unit or units will participate in the project to be funded under the grant or contract, including, as appropriate, participation on advisory committees, as practicum sites, in curriculum development, and in other ways so as to build closer relationships between the applicant and the designated State unit and to encourage students to pursue careers in public vocational rehabilitation programs;
- (B) the identification of potential employers that provide employment that meets the payback requirements of the Act (see next bullet); and
- (C) an assurance that data on the employment of graduates or trainees who participate in the project is accurate.

NOTE: Applicants should refer to the Dear Applicant Letter. It cites the appropriate sections of the program regulations and the applicable parts of EDGAR. The texts of all necessary program statutes and regulations are included in the Rules and Regulations Section of this application package.

Limit the Program Narrative to 50 pages, double-spaced, and number pages consecutively. See the Dear Applicant Letter (Section A) for the format. The narrative should be written concisely. Only the required information should be submitted. If appendices or other supplemental materials are included, they must be kept to a minimum and must substantiate what is proposed in the narrative, e.g., the results of a needs survey or letters of commitment from organizations that will have significant involvement with the project. Please remember that peer reviewers are instructed that appendix material is to be considered supplemental material to support or show evidence-supporting statements made in the narrative. They are neither requested nor expected to consider appendix material in rating applications. All vitae should be limited to one page in length showing the source and date of earned degrees, experience relevant to working with individuals who are disabled and the person's direct relationship to the project, e.g., how the person will function in the project. Also, use spring clips or rubber bands to hold the application together. Do not use binders, folders, and staples as they must be removed before duplicating applications.

NOTE: Funded projects will be required to report evaluation findings in the annual progress report (as part of the continuation application) and in the final report at the conclusion of the project.

IF APPLICABLE, PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

- (a) If a rehabilitation project is in its final year of support and refunding for a new project is being requested, provide a progress report that includes a discussion of all accomplishments to date in achieving project objectives and a schedule of accomplishments or milestones anticipated with the new funding request.
- (b) A listing showing the Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog number, status and amount of each project where there is related previous, pending or anticipated assistance

ASSURANCES - NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0040), Washington, DC 20503

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.

Note: Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the awarding agency. Further, certain Federal awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance, and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project cost) to ensure proper planning, management, and completion of the project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States, and if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. 4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. 1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. 794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. 6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) 523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. 290 dd-3 and 290 ee 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. 3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.
7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
8. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. 1501-1508 and 7324-7328), which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.

9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. 276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. 276c and 18 U.S.C. 874) and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. 327-333), regarding labor standards for federally assisted construction subagreements.
10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clear Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clear Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. 7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended, (P.L. 93-523); and (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, (P.L. 93-205).
12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. 1721 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. 469a-1 et seq.).
14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.
15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. 2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. 4801 et seq.), which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, ☐ Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations. ☐
18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations and policies governing this program.

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL	TITLE	
APPLICANT ORGANIZATION		DATE SUBMITTED

CERTIFICATIONS REGARDING LOBBYING; DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS; AND DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE REQUIREMENTS

Applicants should refer to the regulations cited below to determine the certification to which they are required to attest. Applicants should also review the instructions for certification included in the regulations before completing this form. Signature of this form provides for compliance with certification requirements under 34 CFR Part 82, "New Restrictions on Lobbying," and 34 CFR Part 85, "Government-wide Debarment and Suspension (Nonprocurement) and Government-wide Requirements for Drug-Free Workplace (Grants)." The certifications shall be treated as a material representation of fact upon which reliance will be placed when the Department of Education determines to award the covered transaction, grant, or cooperative agreement.

1. LOBBYING

As required by Section 1352, Title 31 of the U.S. Code, and implemented at 34 CFR Part 82, for persons entering into a grant or cooperative agreement over \$100,000, as defined at 34 CFR Part 82, Sections 82.105 and 82.110, the applicant certifies that:

(a) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making of any Federal grant, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal grant or cooperative agreement;

(b) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal grant or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form - LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions;

(c) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all subawards at all tiers (including subgrants, contracts under grants and cooperative agreements, and subcontracts) and that all subrecipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

2. DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS

As required by Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, and implemented at 34 CFR Part 85, for prospective participants in primary covered transactions, as defined at 34 CFR Part 85, Sections 85.105 and 85.110--

A. The applicant certifies that it and its principals:

(a) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department or agency;

(b) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

(e) Notifying the agency, in writing, within 10 calendar days after receiving notice under subparagraph (d)(2) from an employee or

(c) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State, or local) with commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (2)(b) of this certification; and

(d) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application had one or more public transaction (Federal, State, or local) terminated for cause or default; and

B. Where the applicant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, he or she shall attach an explanation to this application.

3. DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE (GRANTEES OTHER THAN INDIVIDUALS)

As required by the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, and implemented at 34 CFR Part 85, Subpart F, for grantees, as defined at 34 CFR Part 85, Sections 85.605 and 85.610 -

A. The applicant certifies that it will or will continue to provide a drug-free workplace by:

(a) Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the grantee's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition;

(b) Establishing an on-going drug-free awareness program to inform employees about:

(1) The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;

(2) The grantee's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace;

(3) Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and

(4) The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations occurring in the workplace;

(c) Making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph (a);

(d) Notifying the employee in the statement required by paragraph (a) that, as a condition of employment under the grant, the employee will:

(1) Abide by the terms of the statement; and

(2) Notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction;

otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction. Employers of convicted employees must provide notice, including position title, to:

Director, Grants Policy and Oversight Staff, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W. (Room 3652, GSA Regional Office Building No. 3), Washington, DC 20202-4248. Notice shall include the identification number(s) of each affected grant;

(f) Taking one of the following actions, within 30 calendar days of receiving notice under subparagraph (d)(2), with respect to any employee who is so convicted:

(1) Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; or

(2) Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a Federal, State, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency;

(g) Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f).

B. The grantee may insert in the space provided below the site(s) for the performance of work done in connection with the specific grant:

Place of Performance (Street address, city, county, state, zip code)

Check ☐ if there are workplaces on file that are not identified here.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I hereby certify that the applicant will comply with the above certifications.

NAME OF APPLICANT	PR/AWARD NUMBER AND / OR PROJECT NAME
PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE	
SIGNATURE	DATE

**DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE
(GRANTEES WHO ARE INDIVIDUALS)**

As required by the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, and implemented at 34 CFR Part 85, Subpart F, for grantees, as defined at 34 CFR Part 85, Sections 85.605 and 85.610-

A. As a condition of the grant, I certify that I will not engage in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance in conducting any activity with the grant; and

B. If convicted of a criminal drug offense resulting from a violation occurring during the conduct of any grant activity, I will report the conviction, in writing, within 10 calendar days of the conviction, to: Director, Grants Policy and Oversight Staff, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W. (Room 3652, GSA Regional Office Building No. 3), Washington, DC 20202-4248. Notice shall include the identification number(s) of each affected grant.

**Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility and
Voluntary Exclusion -- Lower Tier Covered Transactions**

This certification is required by the Department of Education regulations implementing Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, 34 CFR Part 85, for all lower tier transactions meeting the threshold and tier requirements stated at Section 85.110.

Instructions for Certification

1. By signing and submitting this proposal, the prospective lower tier participant is providing the certification set out below.
2. The certification in this clause is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was entered into. If it is later determined that the prospective lower tier participant knowingly rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.
3. The prospective lower tier participant shall provide immediate written notice to the person to whom this proposal is submitted if at any time the prospective lower tier participant learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
4. The terms "covered transaction," "debarred," "suspended," "ineligible," "lower tier covered transaction," "participant," "person," "primary covered transaction," "principal," "proposal," and "voluntarily excluded," as used in this clause, have the meanings set out in the Definitions and Coverage sections of rules implementing Executive Order 12549. You may contact the person to which this proposal is submitted for assistance in obtaining a copy of those regulations.
5. The prospective lower tier participant agrees by submitting this proposal that, should the proposed covered transaction be entered into, it shall not knowingly enter into any lower tier covered transaction with a person who is debarred, suspended, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this covered transaction, unless authorized by the department or agency with which this transaction originated.
6. The prospective lower tier participant further agrees by submitting this proposal that it will include the clause titled ☐ Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension, Ineligibility, and Voluntary Exclusion-Lower Tier Covered Transactions, ☐ without modification, in all lower tier covered transactions and in all solicitations for lower tier covered transactions.
7. A participant in a covered transaction may rely upon a certification of a prospective participant in a lower tier covered transaction that it is not debarred, suspended, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from the covered transaction, unless it knows that the certification is erroneous. A participant may decide the method and frequency by which it determines the eligibility of its principals. Each participant may but is not required to, check the Nonprocurement List.
8. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render in good faith the certification required by this clause. The knowledge and information of a participant is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.
9. Except for transactions authorized under paragraph 5 of these instructions, if a participant in a covered transaction knowingly enters into a lower tier covered transaction with a person who is suspended, debarred, ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction, in addition to other remedies available to the Federal Government, the department or agency with which this transaction originated may pursue available remedies, including suspension and/or debarment.

Certification

- (1) The prospective lower tier participant certifies, by submission of this proposal, that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any Federal department or agency.
- (2) Where the prospective lower tier participant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, such prospective participant shall attach an explanation to this proposal.

NAME OF APPLICANT	PR/AWARD NUMBER AND/OR PROJECT NAME
PRINTED NAME AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE	
SIGNATURE	DATE

Disclosure of Lobbying Activities

Complete this form to disclose lobbying activities pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1352
(See reverse for public burden disclosure)

1. Type of Federal Action: _____ a. contract _____ b. grant _____ c. cooperative agreement _____ d. loan _____ e. loan guarantee _____ f. loan insurance	2. Status of Federal Action: _____ a. bid/offer/application _____ b. initial award _____ c. post-award	3. Report Type: _____ a. initial filing _____ b. material change For material change only: Year _____ quarter _____ Date of last report _____
4. Name and Address of Reporting Entity: _____ Prime _____ Subawardee Tier _____, if Known: Congressional District, if known:		5. If Reporting Entity in No. 4 is Subawardee, Enter Name and Address of Prime: Congressional District, if known:
6. Federal Department/Agency: 	7. Federal Program Name/Description: CFDA Number, if applicable: _____	
8. Federal Action Number, if known: 	9. Award Amount, if known: \$ _____	
10. a. Name and Address of Lobbying Registrant <i>(if individual, last name, first name, MI):</i>	b. Individuals Performing Services <i>(including address if different from No. 10a)</i> <i>(last name, first name, MI):</i>	
11. Information requested through this form is authorized by title 31 U.S.C. section 1352. This disclosure of lobbying activities is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed by the tier above when this transaction was made or entered into. This disclosure is required pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 1352. This information will be reported to the Congress semi-annually and will be available for public inspection. Any person who fails to file the required disclosure shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.	Signature: _____ Print Name: _____ Title: _____ Telephone No.: _____ Date: _____	
Federal Use Only	Authorized for Local Reproduction Standard Form - LLL (Rev. 7-97)	

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION OF SF-LLL, DISCLOSURE OF LOBBYING ACTIVITIES

This disclosure form shall be completed by the reporting entity, whether subawardee or prime Federal recipient, at the initiation or receipt of a covered Federal action, or a material change to a previous filing, pursuant to title 31 U.S.C. section 1352. The filing of a form is required for each payment or agreement to make payment to any lobbying entity for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with a covered Federal action. Complete all items that apply for both the initial filing and material change report. Refer to the implementing guidance published by the Office of Management and Budget for additional information.

1. Identify the type of covered Federal action for which lobbying activity is and/or has been secured to influence the outcome of a covered Federal action.
2. Identify the status of the covered Federal action.
3. Identify the appropriate classification of this report. If this is a follow-up report caused by a material change to the information previously reported, enter the year and quarter in which the change occurred. Enter the date of the last previously submitted report by this reporting entity for this covered Federal action.
4. Enter the full name, address, city, State and zip code of the reporting entity. Include Congressional District, if known. Check the appropriate classification of the reporting entity that designates if it is, or expects to be, a prime or subaward recipient. Identify the tier of the subawardee, e.g., the first subawardee of the prime is the 1st tier. Subawards include but are not limited to subcontracts, subgrants and contract awards under grants.
5. If the organization filing the report in item 4 checks "Subawardee," then enter the full name, address, city, State and zip code of the prime Federal recipient. Include Congressional District, if known.
6. Enter the name of the federal agency making the award or loan commitment. Include at least one organizational level below agency name, if known. For example, Department of Transportation, United States Coast Guard.
7. Enter the Federal program name or description for the covered Federal action (item 1). If known, enter the full Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) number for grants, cooperative agreements, loans, and loan commitments.
8. Enter the most appropriate Federal identifying number available for the Federal action identified in item 1 (e.g., Request for Proposal (RFP) number; Invitations for Bid (IFB) number; grant announcement number; the contract, grant, or loan award number; the application/proposal control number assigned by the Federal agency). Included prefixes, e.g., "RFP-DE-90-001."
9. For a covered Federal action where there has been an award or loan commitment by the Federal agency, enter the Federal amount of the award/loan commitment for the prime entity identified in item 4 or 5.
10. (a) Enter the full name, address, city, State and zip code of the lobbying registrant under the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 engaged by the reporting entity identified in item 4 to influence the covered Federal action.

(b) Enter the full names of the individual(s) performing services, and include full address if different from 10(a). Enter Last Name, First Name, and Middle Initial (MI).
11. The certifying official shall sign and date the form, print his/her name, title, and telephone number.

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act, as amended, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control Number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is OMB No. 0348-0046. Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0046), Washington, DC 20503

NOTICE TO ALL APPLICANTS: General Education Provisions Act (GEPA)

The purpose of this enclosure is to inform you about a new provision in the Department of Education's General Education Provisions Act (GEPA) that applies to applicants for new grant awards under Department programs. This provision is Section 427 of GEPA, enacted as part of the Improving America's Schools Act of 1994 (Public Law (P.L.) 103-382).

To Whom Does This Provision Apply?

Section 427 of GEPA affects applicants for new grant awards under this program. **ALL APPLICANTS FOR NEW AWARDS MUST INCLUDE INFORMATION IN THEIR APPLICATIONS TO ADDRESS THIS NEW PROVISION IN ORDER TO RECEIVE FUNDING UNDER THIS PROGRAM.**

(If this program is a State-formula grant program, a State needs to provide this description only for projects or activities that it carries out with funds reserved for State-level uses. In addition, local school districts or other eligible applicants that apply to the State for funding need to provide this description in their applications to the State for funding. The State would be responsible for ensuring that the school district or other local entity has submitted a sufficient section 427 statement as described below.)

What Does This Provision Require?

Section 427 requires each applicant for funds (other than an individual person) to include in its application a description of the steps the applicant proposes to take to ensure equitable access to, and participation in, its Federally-assisted program for students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries with special needs. This provision allows applicants discretion in developing the required description. The statute highlights six types of barriers that can impede equitable access or participation: gender, race, national origin, color, disability, or age. Based on local circumstances, you should determine whether these or other barriers may prevent your students, teachers, etc. from such access or participation in, the Federally funded project or activity. The description in your application of steps to be taken to overcome these barriers need not be lengthy; you may provide a clear and succinct description of how you plan to address those barriers that are applicable to your circumstances. In addition, the information may be provided in a single narrative, or, if appropriate, may be discussed in connection with related topics in the application.

Section 427 is not intended to duplicate the requirements of civil rights statutes, but rather to ensure that, in designing their projects, applicants for Federal funds address equity concerns that may affect

the ability of certain potential beneficiaries to fully participate in the project and to achieve to high standards. Consistent with program requirements and its approved application, an applicant may use the Federal funds awarded to it to eliminate barriers it identifies.

What are Examples of How an Applicant Might Satisfy the Requirement of This Provision?

The following examples may help illustrate how an applicant may comply with Section 427.

- (1) An applicant that proposes to carry out an adult literacy project serving, among others, adults with limited English proficiency, might describe in its application how it intends to distribute a brochure about the proposed project to such potential participants in their native language.
- (2) An applicant that proposes to develop instructional materials for classroom use might describe how it will make the materials available on audiotape or in Braille for students who are blind.
- (3) An applicant that proposes to carry out a model science program for secondary students and is concerned that girls **may be less likely than boys to enroll** in the course, might indicate how it intends to conduct "outreach" efforts to girls, to encourage their enrollment.

We recognize that many applicants may already be implementing effective steps to ensure equity of access and participation in their grant programs, and we appreciate your cooperation in responding to the requirements of this provision.

Estimated Burden Statement for GEPA Requirements

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is **1890-0007**. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 1.5 hours per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. **If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to:** Director, Grants Policy and Oversight Staff, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW (Room 3652, GSA Regional Office Building No. 3). Washington, DC 20202-4248.

**NOTICE TO ALL APPLICANTS:
The Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA)**

What is GPRA?

The Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) of 1993 is a straightforward statute that requires all Federal agencies to manage their activities with attention to the consequences of those activities. Each agency is to clearly state what intends to accomplish, identify the resources required, and periodically report their progress to the Congress. In doing so, it is expected that GPRA will contribute to improvements in accountability for the expenditures of public funds, improve Congressional decision-making through more objective information on the effectiveness of Federal programs, and promote a new government focus on results, service delivery, and customer satisfaction.

How has the United States Department of Education Responded to the GPRA Requirements?

As required by GPRA, the United States Department of Education (the Department) has prepared a strategic plan for 1998-2003. This plan reflects the Department's priorities and integrates them with its mission and program authorities and describes how the Department will work to improve education for all children and adults in the United States. The Department's goals, as listed in the plan, are:

- Goal 1:** Help all students reach challenging academic standards so that they are prepared for responsible citizenship, further learning, and productive employment.
- Goal 2:** Build a solid foundation for learning for all children.
- Goal 3:** Ensure access to postsecondary education and lifelong learning.
- Goal 4:** Make the United States Department of Education a high performance organization by focusing on results, service quality, and customer satisfaction.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO PROSPECTIVE PARTICIPANTS
IN U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
GRANT AND CONTRACT PROGRAMS

GRANTS

Applicants for grants from the U.S. Department of Education (ED) have to compete for limited funds. Deadlines assure all applicants that they will be treated fairly and equally, without last minute haste. For these reasons, ED must set strict deadlines for grant applications. Prospective applicants can avoid disappointment if they understand that:

Failure to meet a deadline will mean that an applicant will be rejected without any consideration.

The rules, including the deadline, for applying for each grant are published, individually, in the Federal Register. Six-month or one-year subscriptions to the daily, official Federal Register may be ordered from the U. S. Government Printing Office at the following url: <http://bookstore.gpo.gov/regulatory/fed-reg.html>. The Federal Register Complete Service is also available in microfiche on the same web page. In addition, the Federal Register is available on-line for free on Government Printing Office (GPO) Access: <http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara>. Depository Library location and Federal Register services: <http://www.nara.gov/fedreg>.

The instructions in the Federal Register must be followed exactly. Do not accept any other advice you may receive. No ED employee is authorized to extend any deadline published in the Register. No ED employee is authorized to extend any deadline published in the Federal Register. Questions regarding submission of applications may be addressed to:

U.S. Department of Education
Application Control Center
Washington, D.C. 20202-4725

CONTRACTS

Competitive procurement actions undertaken by the ED are governed by the Federal Acquisition Regulations and implementing Department of Education Acquisition Regulations.

Generally, prospective competitive procurement actions are synopsisized in the Commerce Business Daily (CBD). Prospective offerors are therein advised of the nature of the procurement and where to apply for copies of the Request for Proposals (RFP). All of ED's RFP's are now available on-line for downloading at the following url:
<http://www.ed.gov/offices/ocfo/contracts/currrfp.html>.

Offerors are advised to be guided solely by the contents of the CBD synopsis and the instructions contained in the RFP. Questions regarding the submission of offers should be addressed to the Contracts Specialist identified on the face page of the RFP. Offers are judged in competition with others, and failure to conform with any substantive requirements of the RFP will result in rejection of the offer without any consideration whatever.

Do not accept any advice you receive that is contrary to instructions contained in either the

CBD synopsis or the RFP. No ED employee is authorized to consider a proposal, which is non-responsive to the RFP. Six-month or one-year subscriptions to the CBD may be ordered from the U.S. Government Printing Office at the following url:

<http://bookstore.gpo.gov/regulatory/cbd.html>.

Information included in the Federal Acquisition Regulation is contained in Title 48, Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter 1. The foregoing publication may be obtained by sending your check or money order only, no cash or stamps, to:

**Superintendent of Documents
U.S. Government Printing Office
Washington, D.C. 20402-9371**

In addition, the Commerce Business Daily is available on-line for free at the following url: <http://cbdnet.access.gpo.gov/>. The Federal Acquisition Regulations are available on-line at the following url: <http://www.arnet.gov/far/>.

ED FORM 5348, 10/01

Executive Order 12372 - Intergovernmental Review: State Single Point of Contact

The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR), 34 CFR Part 79, pertaining to intergovernmental review of Federal programs, apply to the program(s) included in this application package. Immediately upon receipt of this notice, all applicants, other than Federally recognized Indian Tribal Governments, must contact the appropriate State Single Point of Contact to find out about, and to comply with, the State's process under Executive Order 12372. Applicants proposing to perform activities in more than one State should contact, immediately upon receipt of this notice, the Single Point of Contact for each State and follow the procedures established in those States under the Executive Order. A list containing the Single Point of Contact for each State is included in the application package for these programs.

In States that have not established a process or chosen a program for review, State, area-wide, regional, and local entities may submit comments directly to the Department.

Any State Process Recommendation and other comments submitted by a State Single Point of Contact and any comments from State, area-wide, regional, and local entities must be mailed or hand-delivered by the date in the program announcement for Intergovernmental Review to the following address:

The Secretary
E.O. 12372-CFDA # 84.235P
U.S. Department of Education, FOB-6, Room 7W130
400 Maryland Ave., SW
Washington, D.C. 20202-0100

On line 2 of the above address, please provide the correct Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance number (CFDA #84.235P) of the program for which a comment or state process recommendation on an application is submitted.

In those States that require review for this program, applications are to be submitted simultaneously to the State Review Process and the U.S. Department of Education.

Proof of mailing will be determined on the same basis as applications.

Please note that the above address is not the same address as the one to which the applicant submits its completed application. Do not send applications to the above address.

STATE SINGLE POINTS OF CONTACT (SPOCs)

This publication by the U.S. Department of Education is an unofficial version of the State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) List published by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). This publication incorporates the most recent revisions made by OMB. The Department has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this unofficial version. However, the only official version of the State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) List is posted on the Grants Management section of the OMB web site <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants/spoc.html>. You may save a text version of this document at the aforementioned site. Please note it will be necessary to put a row of space between each state listing.

It is estimated that in 2001, the Federal Government will outlay \$305.6 billion in grants to State and local governments. Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs," was issued with the desire to foster the intergovernmental partnership and strengthen federalism by relying on State and local processes for the coordination and review of proposed Federal financial assistance and direct Federal development. The Order allows each State to designate an entity to perform this function. Below is the official list of those entities. For those States that have a home page for their designated entity, a direct link has been provided on the official version <http://www.whitehouse.gov/omb/grants/spoc.html>.

States that are not listed on this page have chosen not to participate in the intergovernmental review process, and therefore do not have a SPOC. If you are located within one of these States, you may still send application material directly to a Federal-awarding agency.

Contact information for Federal agencies that award grants can be found in Appendix IV of the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance. [<http://www.cfda.gov/public/cat-app4-index.htm>]

<h3 style="margin: 0;">ARKANSAS</h3> <p>Tracy L. Copeland Manager, State Clearinghouse Office of Intergovernmental Services Department of Finance and Administration 1515 7th Street, Room 412 Little Rock, Arkansas 72203 Telephone: (501) 682-1074 FAX: (501) 682-5206 TlCopeland@dfa.state.ar.us</p>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">CALIFORNIA</h3> <p>Grants Coordination State Clearinghouse Office of Planning and Research P.O. Box 3044, Room 222 Sacramento, California 95812-3044 Telephone: (916) 445-0613 FAX: (916) 323-3018 State.clearinghouse@opr.ca.gov</p>
<h3 style="margin: 0;">DELAWARE</h3> <p>Charles H. Hopkins Executive Department Office of the Budget 540 S. Dupont Highway , 3rd Floor Dover, Delaware 19901 Telephone: (302) 739-3323 FAX: (302) 739-5661 Chopkins@state.de.us</p>	<h3 style="margin: 0;">DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA</h3> <p>Luisa Montero-Diaz Office of Partnerships and Grants Development Executive Office of the Mayor District of Columbia Government 414 4th Street, NW, Suite 530 South Washington, DC 20001 Telephone: (202) 727-8900 FAX: (202) 727-1652 opgd.eom@dc.gov</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">FLORIDA</p> <p>Jasmin Raffington Florida State Clearinghouse Department of Community Affairs 2555 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100 Telephone: (850) 922-5438 FAX: (850) 414-0479 clearinghouse@dca.state.fl.us</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">GEORGIA</p> <p>Georgia State Clearinghouse 270 Washington Street, SW Atlanta, Georgia 30334 Telephone: (404) 656-3855 FAX: (404) 656-7901 Gach@mail.opb.state.ga.us</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">ILLINOIS</p> <p>Virginia Bova Department of Commerce and Community Affairs James R. Thompson Center 100 West Randolph, Suite 3-400 Chicago, Illinois 60601 Telephone: (312) 814-6028 FAX: (312) 814-8485 vbova@commerce.state.il.us</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">IOWA</p> <p>Steven R. McCann Division of Community and Rural Development Iowa Department of Economic Development 200 East Grand Avenue Des Moines, Iowa 50309 Telephone: (515) 242-4719 FAX: (515) 242-4809 Steve.mccann@ided.state.ia.us</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">KENTUCKY</p> <p>Ron Cook Department for Local Government 1024 Capital Center Drive, Suite 340 Frankfort, Kentucky 40601 Telephone: (502) 573-2382 FAX: (502) 573-2512 Ron.cook@mail.state.ky.us</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MAINE</p> <p>Joyce Benson State Planning Office 184 State Street 38 State House Station Augusta, Maine 04333 Telephone: (207) 287-3261 Telephone: (207) 1461 (direct) FAX: (207) 287-6489 Joyce.benson@state.me.us</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">MARYLAND</p> <p>Linda Janey Manager, Clearinghouse and Plan Review Unit Maryland Office of Planning 301 West Preston Street – Room 1104 Baltimore, Maryland 21201-2305 Telephone: (410) 767-4490 FAX: (410) 767-4480 linda@mail.op.state.md.us</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">MICHIGAN</p> <p>Richard Pfaff Southeast Michigan Council of Governments 535 Griswold, Suite 300 Detroit, Michigan 48226 Telephone: (313) 961-4266 FAX: (313) 961-4869 pfaff@semcog.org</p>

<p>MISSISSIPPI</p> <p>Cathy Mallette Clearinghouse Officer Department of Finance and Administration 1301 Woolfolk Building, Suite E 501 North West Street Jackson, Mississippi 39201 Telephone: (601) 359-6762 FAX: (601) 359-6758</p>	<p>MISSOURI</p> <p>Angela Boessen Federal Assistance Clearinghouse Office of Administration P.O. Box 809 Truman Building, Room 840 Jefferson City, Missouri 65102 Telephone: (573) 751-4834 FAX: (573) 522-4395 igr@mail.oa.state.mo.us</p>
<p>NEVADA</p> <p>Heather Elliott Department of Administration State Clearinghouse 209 E. Musser Street, Room 200 Carson City, Nevada 89701-4298 Telephone: (775) 684-0209 FAX: (775) 684-0260 Helliot@govmail.state.nv.us</p>	<p>NEW HAMPSHIRE</p> <p>Jeffrey H. Taylor Director New Hampshire Office of State Planning Attn: Intergovernmental Review Process Mike Blake 2½ Beacon Street Concord, New Hampshire 03301 Telephone: (603) 271-2155 FAX: (603) 271-1728 Jtaylor@osp.state.nh.us</p>
<p>NEW MEXICO</p> <p>Ken Hughes Local Government Division Room 201, Bataan Memorial Building Santa Fe, New Mexico 87503 Telephone: (505) 827-4370 FAX: (505) 827-4948 Khughes@dfa.state.nm.us</p>	<p>NORTH CAROLINA</p> <p>Jeanette Furney Department of Administration 1302 Mail Service Center Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1302 Telephone: (919) 807-2323 FAX: (919) 733-9571 Jeanette.furney@ncmail.net</p>
<p>NORTH DAKOTA</p> <p>Jim Boyd Division of Community Services 600 East Boulevard Ave, Dept 105 Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0170 Telephone: (701) 328-2094 FAX: (701) 328-2308 Jboyd@state.nd.us</p>	<p>RHODE ISLAND</p> <p>Kevin Nelson Department of Administration Statewide Planning Program One Capitol Hill Providence Rhode Island 02908-5870 Telephone: (401) 222-2093 FAX: (401) 222-2083 knelson@doa.state.ri.us</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">SOUTH CAROLINA</p> <p>Omeagia Burgess Budget and Control Board Office of State Budget 1122 Ladies Street – 12th Floor Columbia, South Carolina 29201 Telephone: (803) 734-0494 FAX: (803) 734-0645 Aburgess@budget.state.sc.us</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">TEXAS</p> <p>Denise S. Francis Director, State Grants Team Governor’s Office of Budget and Planning P.O. Box 12428 Austin, Texas 78711 Telephone: (512) 305-9415 FAX: (512) 936-2681 dfrancis@governor.state.tx.us</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">UTAH</p> <p>Carolyn Wright Utah State Clearinghouse Governor’s Office of Planning and Budget State Capitol, Room 114 Salt Lake City, Utah 84114 Telephone: (801) 538-1535 FAX: (801) 538-1547 cwright@gov.state.ut.us</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">WEST VIRGINIA</p> <p>Fred Cutlip, Director Community Development Division West Virginia Development Office Building #6, Room 553 Charleston, West Virginia 25305 Telephone: (304) 558-4010 FAX: (304) 558-3248 fcutlip@wvdo.org</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">WISCONSIN</p> <p>Jeff Smith Section Chief, Federal/State Relations Wisconsin Department of Administration 101 East Wilson Street – 6th Floor P.O. Box 7868 Madison, Wisconsin 53707 Telephone: (608) 266-0267 FAX: (608) 267-6931 jeffrey.smith@doa.state.wi.us</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">AMERICAN SAMOA</p> <p>Pat M. Galea'i Federal Grants/Programs Coordinator Office of Federal Programs Office of the Governor/Department of Commerce American Samoa Government Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799 Telephone: (684) 633-5155 Fax: (684) 633-4195 pmgaleai@samoatelco.com</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">GUAM</p> <p>Director Bureau of Budget and Management Research Office of the Governor P.O. Box 2950 Agana, Guam 96910 Telephone: 011-671-472-2285 FAX: 011-671-472-2825 jer@ns.gov.gu</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PUERTO RICO</p> <p>Jose Caballero / Mayra Silva Puerto Rico Planning Board Federal Proposals Review Office Minillas Government Center P.O. Box 41119 San Juan, Puerto Rico 00940-1119 Telephone: (787) 723-6190 FAX: (787) 722-6783</p>

NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS	VIRGIN ISLANDS
<p>Ms. Jacoba T. Seman Federal Programs Coordinator Office of Management and Budget Office of the Governor Saipan, MP 96950 Telephone: (670) 664-2289 FAX: (670) 664-2272 omb.jseman@saipan.com</p>	<p>Ira Mills Director, Office of Management & Budget # 41 Norre Gade Emancipation Garden Station, Second Floor Saint Thomas, Virgin Islands 00802 Telephone: (340) 774-0750 FAX: (787) 776-0069 Irmills@usvi.org</p>

Changes to this list can be made only after OMB is notified by a State's officially designated representative. E-mail messages can be sent to grants@omb.eop.gov. If you prefer, you may send correspondence to the following postal address:

**Attn: Grants Management
Office of Management and Budget
New Executive Office Building, Suite 6025
725 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20503**

Please note: Inquiries about obtaining a Federal grant should not be sent to the OMB e-mail or postal address shown above. The best source for this information is the Catalog of Domestic Assistance ([CFDA](#)).



SURVEY ON ENSURING EQUAL OPPORTUNITY FOR APPLICANTS

Do not enter information below unless instructed to do so.

OMB No. 1890-0014 Exp. 1/31/2006

Purpose: This form is for applicants that are nonprofit private organizations (not including private universities). Please complete it to assist the Federal government in ensuring that all qualified applicants, small or large, non-religious or faith-based, have an equal opportunity to compete for Federal funding. Information provided on this form will not be considered in any way in making funding decisions and will not be included in the Federal grants database.

Instructions for Submitting Survey

If submitting hard copy, please place the completed survey in an envelope labeled "Applicant Survey." Seal the envelope and include it with your application package.

If submitting electronically, please include the PR Award Number assigned to your e-application in the box above entitled "*Do not enter information below unless instructed to do so.*" Place and seal the completed survey in an envelope and mail it to: Joyce I. Mays, Application Control Center, U.S. Department of Education, 7th and D Streets, SW, ROB-3, Room 3671, Washington, DC 20202-4725.

1. Does the applicant have 501(c)(3) status?

☐

Yes

☐

No

2. How many full-time equivalent employees does the applicant have?
(Check only one box).

☐

3 or Fewer

☐

15-50

☐

4-5

☐

51-100

☐

6-14

☐

over 100

3. What is the size of the applicant's annual budget? (Check only one box.)

☐

Less Than \$150,000

☐

\$150,000 - \$299,999

☐

\$300,000 - \$499,999

☐

\$500,000 - \$999,999

☐

\$1,000,000 - \$4,999,999

☐

\$5,000,000 or more

4. Is the applicant a faith-based/religious organization?

☐

Yes

☐

No

5. Is the applicant a non-religious community-based organization?

☐

Yes

☐

No

6. Is the applicant an intermediary that will manage the grant on behalf of other organizations?

☐

Yes

☐

No

7. Has the applicant ever received a government grant or contract (Federal, State, or local)?

☐

Yes

☐

No

8. Is the applicant a local affiliate of a national organization?

☐

Yes

☐

No

Survey Instructions on Ensuring Equal Opportunity for Applicants

1. 501(c)(3) status is a legal designation provided on application to the Internal Revenue Service by eligible organizations. Some grant programs may require nonprofit applicants to have 501(c)(3) status. Other grant programs do not.
2. For example, two part-time employees who each work half time equal one full-time equivalent employee. If the applicant is a local affiliate of a national organization, the responses to survey questions 2 and 3 should reflect the staff and budget size of the local affiliate.
3. Annual budget means the amount of money your organization spends each year on all of its activities.
4. Self-identify.
5. An organization is considered a community-based organization if its headquarters/service location shares the same zip code as the clients you serve.
6. An “intermediary” is an organization that enables a group of small organizations to receive and manage government funds by administering the grant on their behalf.
7. Self-explanatory.
8. Self-explanatory

Paperwork Burden Statement

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless such collection displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1890-0014. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average five (5) minutes per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. **If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to:** U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651. **If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, write directly to:** Joyce I. Mays, Application Control Center, U.S. Department of Education, 7th and D Streets, SW, ROB-3, Room 3671, Washington, DC 20202-4725.

SECTION G

APPLICATION CHECKLIST AND COMMON QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Application Checklist

Does your application include each of the following?

- ☐ [] Cover page (ED Form 424)
- ☐ [] Budget form (ED Form 524)
- ☐ [] Program specific budget form [if applicable]
- ☐ [] Budget narrative [if applicable]
- ☐ [] Program narrative, including abstract and responses to the selection criteria
- ☐ [] Assurances and Certifications [list]

Did You --

- ☐ [] Provide one (1) original plus two 2 copies of the application (One original and six copies are requested)?
- ☐ [] Include all required forms with original signatures and dates?
- ☐ [] Submit a copy of the application to the State Single Point of Contact, if applicable?
- ☐ [] Submit your application via e-Application, or

- | | | | |
|------------------------------|---|-----------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> [] | Mail* Application To: | OR | Hand-deliver* Application To: |
| | Projects & Demonstrations to
Improve Literacy & Employment
Outcomes
ATTN: 84.235P
U.S. Department of Education
Application Control Center
7 th & D Streets, SW, Room 3671
Washington, DC 20202-4725 | | Projects & Demonstrations to
Improve Literacy & Employment
Outcomes
ATTN: 84.235P
U.S. Department of Education
Application Control Center
7th & D Streets, SW, Room 3671
Washington, DC 20202-4725 |

*Must be received by mail postmarked no later than the closing date or hand-delivered by 4:30 p.m. no later than the closing date.

COMMON QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

[Below are some examples of Q's & A's that programs may include in their application booklets. Programs may want to add others. Generally speaking, Q's & A's should not repeat information that is given elsewhere in the application. However, there may be exceptions to this "rule of thumb." Q's & A's should not be subregulatory and should not take the place of instructions.]

Q. What happens to my application after it is received in the Department?

A. The Department's Application Control Center receives each application, assigns each an identifying number (PR/Award number), confirms receipt of applications, and sends the applications to the appropriate program office, which screens them for eligibility. The program conducts a peer review of all eligible applications sent to a program competition, ranks them and recommends the highest ranked applications for funding with exceptions as provided by law. The responsible official for the applicable program reviews the program office's recommendations, checks the adequacy of the documentation supporting the recommendations, and approves a final list, or slate, of recommended projects and funding amounts. RSA Training Division staff discuss the recommendations with the successful applicants and awards the grants.

Q. What happens to my application if the Department finds it to be ineligible?

A. The Department immediately returns an application that does not meet the eligibility criteria for the particular program. A letter from the Department explaining why it is not being reviewed in the competition accompanies the application.

Q. How does the Department review an application?

A. Each application is assessed by knowledgeable persons from outside and sometimes inside the Department who are asked for their judgments about the quality and significance of the proposed project. These persons represent a diversity of disciplines and institutional, regional, and cultural backgrounds. The advice of these experts is compiled by Departmental staff that comment on matters of fact or on significant issues that would otherwise be missing from the review. The results are then presented to the responsible official responsible for the program who approves the recommendations for funding.

Q. What Criteria do the reviewers use when scoring an application?

A. Reviewers score each application using the selection criteria published in the Federal Register as part of the program regulations, which are given in Section F of this application package. Reviewers are instructed to use only the published criteria.

Q. Is a recommended application guaranteed funding?

A. No. Funding is not final until discussions have been successfully concluded and a grant award notification has been signed by the grants office and mailed to the applicant.

Q. How long does it take the Department to complete the review process?

A. Most review processes take from four to six months.

Q. How does the *invitational*, *competitive* and *absolute* priorities differ?

✓ **Invitational Priority**

The Secretary may simply invite applicants to meet a priority. However, an application that addresses invitational priorities receives no competitive or absolute preference over applications that do not meet this priority.

✓ **Competitive Priority**

If a program uses weighted selection criteria, the Secretary may award selection points to an application that meets the priority. These points are in addition to any points the application earns under the selection criteria. The notice states the maximum number of additional points that the Secretary may award to applications that meet the priority in a particularly effective way. Or the Secretary may simply select applications that meet the competitive priority over applications of comparable merit that do not meet the priority.

✓ **Absolute Priority**

Under an absolute priority, the Secretary may select for funding only those Applications that meet the priority.

Q. Can changes in the size of subsequent year awards be made after the multi-year budget has been negotiated?

A. Yes, a grantee can renegotiate his or her multi-year budget and may be awarded additional funds if sufficient justification is presented to the Secretary and funds are available. Also, funds can be decreased if it is determined that the multi-year budget was overestimated.

Q. How will funding continuation decisions be made if the Department is phasing out the use of non-competing continuation applications after fiscal year 1995?

A. Grantees will be required to complete annual performance reports that describe the projects' accomplishments, evaluations, and finances. These performance reports, along with other information, will be used by the Department to decide whether to continue funding projects.

DUNS Number Instructions

D-U-N-S No.: Please provide the applicant's D-U--N-S Number. You can obtain your D-U-N-S Number at not charge by calling **1-800-333-0505** or by completing a D-U-N-S Number Request Form. The form can be obtained via the Internet at the following URL:

<http://www.dnb.com/dbis/about/intlduns.htm>

The D-U-N-S Number is a unique nine-digit number that does not convey any information about the recipient. A built in check digit helps assure the accuracy of the D-U-N-S Number. The ninth digit of each number is the check digit, which is mathematically related to the other digits. It lets computer systems determine if a D-U-N-S Number has been entered correctly.

DUN & Bradstreet, a global information services provider, has assigned D-U-N-S number to over 43 million companies worldwide.

GRANT APPLICATION RECEIPT ACKNOWLEDGMENT

If you fail to receive the notification of application receipt within fifteen (15) days from the closing date, call:

U.S. Department of Education
Application Control Center
(202) 708-9493

GRANT AND CONTRACT FUNDING INFORMATION

The Department of Education provides information about grant and contract opportunities electronically in several ways:

ED Internet Home Page <http://www.ed.gov/> (WWW address)